



ST BRIGID'S CATHOLIC PARISH
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22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time A - 30 August 2020

First Reading Jer 20:7-9 *A reading from the prophet Jeremiah*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v.2

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

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| <p>1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. (R.)</p> | <p>3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. (R.)</p> |
| <p>2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. (R.)</p> | <p>4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. (R.)</p> |

Second Reading Rom 12:1-2 *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart,
 that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.
 Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 16:21-27 *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Dear Friends in Christ.

When we were baptised, we received in Christ the prophetic mission of God to the world. That was part of the three-fold Mission (3-fold ministry, or 3-fold office) of Christ as Saviour of humanity. So, as baptism makes us members of Christ's body, the Church, so we are marked off, or set apart by the indelible Sacramental character (or Sacramental Seal) of Baptism to be priests, prophets, and shepherd-kings. Addressing the baptised, St Peter wrote: "You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, [chosen] in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light".

Thus, through baptism we not only became a chosen people, a royal people, but also a prophetic people – a people called and chosen to proclaim the wonderful works of God. It is the duty of a prophet to announce the message of God, welcome or unwelcome (see 2 Timothy 4:2). The Church document of the second Vatican Council confirms that the baptised becomes prophets, when it says: "the faithful, who by Baptism are incorporated into Christ, in their own way share the priestly, prophetic and kingly office of Christ." (LG. no. 31).

All the foregoing is just to establish the fact that all the baptised are chosen prophets of God like Jeremiah of the first reading. Every Catholic, by virtue of their baptismal character, has received a sour-and-sweet mission of announcing to their family, friends and to the world, the words and ways of God. It was not easy for Jeremiah to smoothly and peacefully carry out the task of proclaiming the word of God to His people, especially, those words that were meant to correct, rebuke and warn the wrong doers of punishment. Being God's prophet made him "a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt". The word of the Lord brought him "insult, derision, all day long" because he was meant to announce God's words of "violence and ruin!" which in our time could stand for homilies of hell fire and brimstone. For being true to his prophetic call and mission, he was hated and persecuted.

Would our experiences as prophets be different? If it was to be different, I do not think that Jesus would have said to us, "And you will be hated by everyone because of My name. Yet not even a hair of your head will perish. By your patient endurance you will gain your souls" (Luke 21:17-19). Many Christian Prophets did believe this saying of Jesus, and died as martyrs, but today, humanly speaking, the hairs of their head with their head and bodies have perished in their tombs. In our human estimation, they might be saying to Jesus like Jeremiah "You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced". We sing their praises because the Church has honoured them. Think of it! If your brother or sister, in fact, any member of your family or group of friends, immediate or extended, is to stand for Christ and be killed for that, would you encourage him to go ahead? How often do we dodge speaking up for Christ and his Church, when it is clear to us that the result will be insults, derisions, suffering or death?

In today's Gospel, Peter could not come to terms with Jesus, the Christ, the Son of the living God, talking about his impending suffering and death in Jerusalem where they were going. He took Jesus aside and "started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you'". He was trying to be humane, to save Jesus from trouble, but to Jesus, that was Satan talking, for he thinks in the ways of men and not in God's way. Once it comes to suffering, even if it is for Christ's sake, most people would not have it, either for themselves or for their own people. It is really challenging, especially when we are tempted, contrary to St Paul's advice in today's second reading, to model our lives "on the behaviour of the world around" us. But that is part of the cross a Christian, especially a Christian Prophet, has to carry – not to model our lives according to the standards of this world. And to always tell others, it is wrong to model their lives according to the standards of this world could really be challenging. But that is the cross.

Jesus, in today's Gospel reading exhorts each and every one of us to carry his or her cross every day and follow him. Some Christians fear losing face, falling into trouble, being misunderstood, ridiculed, etc, if they should speak out and speak up for their faith and condemn evil amicably. And so, shy away in living up to their prophetic mission. But Jesus said today, "anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it". Even if we have to die for Christ - though it may not come to that – we should offer our bodies as holy and living sacrifices, acceptable to God. That way, we are assured of everlasting life with Christ.

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, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7.00 am

Wednesday 5.45 pm

Saturday Morning 9.00 am

Mass for the Sick with Anointing is on the
Third Saturday of the month at 9.00am

The next Anointing Mass will be to be advised

Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm
Sunday 8.30 am and 10.30am

Rosary

Monday, Tuesday, Friday at 7.30 am,

Saturday at 8.30am.

Divine Mercy Prayer Thursday 7.30 am

Adoration Thursday 6.00-7.00pm

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Saturday 9.30 am

Reconciliation: St Brigid's Church By appointment only

St John's Windabout Road, Beechmont 4th Sunday of each month

Next Mass at St John's 27th September 2020



COVID-19 Mass Guidelines

Dear Parishioners

All parishioners who wish to attend any or all of the weekday or Sunday Masses must now ring or email the office to have their name included in the list for that particular day. If you wish to attend daily and/or weekend (Sunday) Mass, your name can be listed for the entire month of September if you let us know and then you do not have to contact us until the end of August to re-register for the following month. Unfortunately many people are under the assumption that they do not need to register but it is a requirement of the Archdiocese that we must comply with. Please note: The Government's social distancing guidelines will also apply.

With the new cases reported in Queensland we ask for your prayers.

Fr Isidore Enyinnaya

INSTALLATION OF CAMERAS IN THE CHURCH

With the COVID 19 restrictions and lockdown still in place, we would like to continue our live streaming to reach out to members of our community who may not be in the Church with us and also to make available to those who participated at the Mass an opportunity to watch the Mass and listen to the homily again if they so wish. Installing cameras for professional video recording and uploading to the internet will also benefit the Church and families who would like to live stream the funeral of loved ones to relatives and friends who may be unable to attend. The same applies to weddings, graduation ceremonies, celebration of the sacraments like baptisms, first Holy Eucharist, Confirmation, and Anointing of the sick. Grand-parents and sick relatives and friends would not miss out completely. There are other uses and benefits as well which could accrue from the Church having fixed cameras in place. If anyone feels touched to support this project, please do not hesitate to talk to me about how you could help. We would like to thank the generous parishioners who have donated \$4,325.00 towards this project.

BAPTISM PRAYERS

We pray for Olivia Ann Anderson who is being baptised this weekend. We pray that she will grow in grace and wisdom and abound with the love of God all her life's journey. We pray for her Family and Godparents.

SHALOM WORLD TV

Please Watch Inspiring and faith filled Christian television programs.

Shalom World's main website: <https://shalomworld.org>

Shalom Media: <https://shalommedia.org>

Shalom Media Store: <https://shalommediastore.org>

TO DOWNLOAD THE APP <https://shalomworld.org/watchon/apps>

TO SUPPORT US <https://payments.shalommedia.org/tvdo...>

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Subscribe: <https://www.youtube.com/c/shalomworld>

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION SCHEDULE

Meeting dates for Confirmation are:

17th October 10.10 am
24th October 3pm to 5.00pm Retreat
25th October 9.30am to 10.30am continuation of Retreat
30th October 6.00pm Confirmation night

Meetings for First Eucharist are:

30th August 9.30am after Mass
12th September 10.10am after Mass
10th October 10.10am after Mass
11th October 9.30am after Mass
31st October 10.10am after Mass
1st November 9:30am after Mass—brief meeting only
7th November 10.10am after Mass
14th November 10.10am Retreat
15th November 9.30am to 10.30am continuation of Retreat
21st November 6.00pm First Eucharist
22nd November 8.30am First Eucharist

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

We pray for the recently deceased :

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

We also remember their families—*may they be comforted in their loss by this Community of Faith.*

We pray for those who are sick or in hospital: Noela Hopkins, Peter Doring, John Sweeny, Daryl Williams, Ava Mansfield, Shirley Jean Carr, Kath Fisher, Brenda Dale, (Baby) Paris Organ, Maureen Bourke, Patricia Smith, Maureen & Paul Humey, Valda Silvy, Joan Gordon, Amanda Gordon, Shelly Ryan, Sandra Miller, Nona Maguire,

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



SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Today is Social Justice Sunday. The Bishops' 2020-2021 Social Justice Statement is titled "To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today." The Statement is available electronically on the ACBC Office for Social Justice page along with liturgy resources, a prayer card and podcasts. A spoken word version is available as 3 podcasts. All resources are available at:

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK—SEPTEMBER 6—12, 2020

This year National Child Protection Week will celebrate its 30th year with the theme 'Putting children first'. Putting children first means prioritising the safety and wellbeing of children. To grow up well children need to feel safe and loved, have a chance to play and explore, have a say in decisions that affect them, and access to essential things like food, shelter and healthcare.

Show your support for National Child Protection Week by raising awareness of it in your parish or ministry.

More information is available on the National Child Protection Week website at

www.napcan.org.au/national-child-protection-week/.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION

This year's Good Friday Collection has been rescheduled by Pope Francis to Sunday 13th September. The hope of many is that rescheduling will go some way to offset the collection's cancellation on Good Friday and the closure of churches around the world, even until the present time in some countries. The collection remains a vital contribution and act of solidarity that the whole church is invited to make to support, through the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land, the Christian peoples of the Holy Land. These often Arab Christians, who trace their faith back to Pentecost (Acts 2:10), still walk in the footsteps of Jesus and often experience a seemingly endless Way of the Cross. Please give generously to this appeal.

ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIALS as at 23rd August 2020

1ST COLLECTION: \$ 423.15 For Clergy Support (Greatly affected by COVID 19 Crisis)

2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1090.05 For Parish expenses such as administration & maintenance of all our buildings & properties.

We appeal to all our Parishioners and friends who are not on planned giving already to consider switching over to planned giving or find another means of supporting the Parish and our ministry financially. We will send to parishioners the planned giving forms on request. I sincerely thank you for your continued financial support. Be assured of our prayers, and of your divine rewards.

Fr Isidore Enyinnaya

August 30, 2020 - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" (Matthew 16:26)

St. Francis of Assisi once said, "Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else." We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent, and treasure to gain more of the world's riches. We need to set our priorities based on God's values and not the values of the material world. www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections