



**ST BRIGID'S CATHOLIC PARISH**  
39-49 McLAREN ROAD, NERANG  
POSTAL: PO Box 196 NERANG, QLD 4211  
PHONE: (07) 5596 2632 FAX: (07) 5596 3669  
WEBSITE: [www.stbrigidsparishnerang.org.au](http://www.stbrigidsparishnerang.org.au)

**PASTORAL & ADMINISTRATION TEAM:**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Isidore Enyinnaya. **Ph:** 0451 140 471. **Email:** [pp.nerang@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pp.nerang@bne.catholic.net.au)  
**Parish Secretary:** Lenette Evans **Office Email:** [nerang@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:nerang@bne.catholic.net.au)  
**Administration Assistant:** Gurli Pennings **Tim Horvat:** Parish WHS & Safeguarding Officer

**Homily for the Annual Catholic Campaign 2020 by Archbishop Mark Coleridge**

The COVID-19 crisis has hit us all hard, but some harder than others. We've come to see that we're more fragile than we thought we were, and some of our certitudes have been shaken to the core. We wonder how it all happened, and we wonder where it will leave us when the crisis has passed. Instinctively we know that things will never be quite the same again, but we don't know what that will mean. It's a time of deep uncertainty, a time when the earth beneath our feet seems to move, a time when we look to build on rock not sand.

The rock on which we need to build is a new kind of solidarity, demanded by both this time of affliction and the future that lies beyond. 'We're all in this together' has been the catch-cry of this time. It's true of course; but it's also true that we need to imagine and enact new ways of being together—being together with God and being together with each other. For Christians, the first determines the second. The way we are with God will determine the way we are with each other. So here is where we begin to see and understand the future, life beyond the pandemic.

The prophet Isaiah tells us how God is with us. The real God, he says, is near us— not in some heaven, light years away, looking the other way. "Call to God while he is still near", the prophet says. God may feel far away in a time of affliction like this, but in fact God is unimaginably near. The God who is near takes pity on us. He who has borne our burdens and known our afflictions is closer to us than we know; and that closeness means compassion—not an indifference to human suffering but an infinite compassion which heals every wound and forgives every sin. This is the God whose ways are not the ways of a heartless world, not the thoughts of a merciless mind. This is what Pope Francis has called 'the revolution of tenderness' that turns the world as we know it on its head.

Today's Gospel sees the same revolution as a mysterious generosity that defies conventional logic: those who had worked only one hour are paid as much as those who'd worked all day. But the generous God can see that the waiting had also been work— the anxious waiting by men who had to work to feed their family. They were paid for the work of their waiting— and their families were therefore fed.

There are many different ways of working—working for the coming of God's Kingdom, which is the revolution of tenderness, which is closeness and compassion, pity and forgiveness. These are what make for a new kind of solidarity between God and human beings and between human beings themselves.

The Annual Catholic Campaign is all about that revolution, all about the coming of God's Kingdom when the dark powers seem to reign. The Campaign focuses on four different ways of working for the revolution of God. First, the MacKillop Fund which provides Catholic education bursaries to children whose families are suffering hardship, especially in this time of pandemic. Second, Holy Spirit Seminary which provides formation for our priests who will need strong preparation for the ministry of leadership that awaits them in changing times. Third, the Priests Foundation which supports the retired, elderly and ailing Priests who have spent their lives in service of God's people and who remain a vital part of the ecology of the Archdiocese. And fourth, Centacare's Pastoral Ministries which reach out in compassion through services like domestic violence support, psychiatric counselling, family support, hospital chaplaincy and prison ministry—all of which are facing new pressures as a result of COVID-19.

Each of these works is a powerful sign of the God who is near to us, who knows our needs and enters into our suffering, the God who bears our burdens and heals our wounds. So I ask you today to support the Annual Catholic Campaign in this strange landscape we have entered where we're all feeling the pinch in one way or another. You may even want to consider making a regular monthly gift of an amount which means something to you. In the midst of all the uncertainty, one thing is certain: every dollar you give will be carefully spent and will be spent for the purposes I've mentioned. The other thing that's certain is that it will make a difference to people who are doing it hard and need to know that God is close to them.

This time of crisis has made us focus on what really matters. We've had to work out what's really important in the midst of all the stuff that fills our life. The Annual Catholic Campaign is one way of focusing on what really matters, which in the end means focusing on Jesus. St Paul says to us today, "Life for me is Christ" - words which were the motto of Archbishop Frank Rush. For us too life is Christ, the Christ who says to us 'as long as you do this to one of these, the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it to me' (Matt 25:45). We focus on them in order to focus on him who is our life and the ground of the new solidarity we now need.

**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time A - 20 Sept 2020**

**First Reading** *Is 55:6-9* *A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

**Responsorial Psalm** *Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v.18*

**(R.)** The Lord is near to all who call him.

- 1. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. the Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured. **(R.)**
- 2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
- 3. The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** *Phil 1:20-24, 27* *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

**Gospel Acclamation** *See Acts 16:14*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** *Mt 20:1-16* *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

**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)

**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



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

**We pray for the recently deceased:** Robert Phillips

**We pray for the departed whose anniversaries occur at this time:** William Pennings, John Baldacchino, Kerry John Victor, Jozo Krajivovic

**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:** Gregory Hume, 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 Hume, 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.**



**ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN**

Over this weekend and next, our Church is delighted to be supporting the Annual Catholic Campaign. It is the one time a year that all of the parishes in the Archdiocese come together to help vital works of our church and local community. Funds raised will support ministries that directly impact this parish. The Campaign supports training future priests, caring for our elderly, retired priests, helping local families in dire need to access a Catholic education and caring for those suffering physically and emotionally in our community. For your health, and in-line with our COVID-safe plan, we are not sharing brochures and pencils this year. Please do take a Campaign brochure and giving envelope with you when you go today. You can either pop it in the mail or return it next week. Of course, if you have a pen in your bag, feel free to fill it in today and place it in the collection.

**WORD OF LIFE ACADEMY** - - Come and pray with the Word of God. Every last Saturday of the month from 10 am to 12 pm at St Brigid's Parish. Next meeting is Saturday 26th September 2020. All Welcome.

**IN EMERGENCIES or HOSPITAL CALLS**

**For Robina Hospital - Burleigh Heads Parish on 5576 6466**

**For Pindara Hospital - Surfers Paradise Parish on 5572 5433**

**John Flynn Hospital -Coolangatta-Tugun Parish on 5598 2165**

**University & Gold Coast Priv Hosp-Southport Parish 5510 2222**

**Sept 20, 2020 - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time** "So the last will be first and the first last." (Matthew 20:16) You've heard the saying "It's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives. [www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections](http://www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections)

**Week-day Mass Readings**

Days	Memorials/Feasts	Readings (R1 and R2)	Gospel Reading
Mon	21/9/20 St. Matthew, apostle	R1: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13	Mt 9:9-13
Tues	22/9/20	R1: Prov 21:1-6, 10-13	Lk 8:19-21
Wed	23/9/20 St Pius of Pietrelcina	R1: Prov 30:5-9	Lk 9:1-6
Thurs	24/9/20	R1: Eccl 1:2-11	Lk 9:7-9
Fri	25/9/20	R1: Eccl 3:1-11	Lk 9:18-22

**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](http://brisbanecatholic.org.au)

**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.

**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:**

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

**ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIALS as at 13th September 2020**

**1ST COLLECTION: \$ 746.50 For Clergy Support (Greatly affected by COVID 19 Crisis)**

**2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1143.20 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**

**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 are grateful to generous parishioners who have donated more than \$5,425.00 towards this project.

Fr Isidore Enyinnaya