



ST BRIGID'S CATHOLIC PARISH
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PASTORAL & ADMINISTRATION TEAM:

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26th Sunday in Ordinary Time A - 27 Sept 2020

First Reading Ez 18:25-28 *A reading from the prophet Ezekiel*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24:4-9. R. v.6

(R.) Remember your mercies, O Lord.

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| <p>1. Lord, make me know your ways.
 Lord, teach me your paths.
 Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
 for you are God my saviour. (R.)</p> <p>2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
 and the love you have shown from of old.
 Do not remember the sins of my youth.
 In your love remember me,
 because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)</p> | <p>3. The Lord is good and upright.
 He shows the path to those who stray,
 he guides the humble in the right path;
 he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)</p> |
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Second Reading Phil 2:1-11 *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!
 My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
 I know them, and they follow me.
 Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 21:28-32 *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

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Dearest Friends in Christ

If you are given an opportunity to choose either being disappointed at first before being finally successful or being disappointed at last after you thought you had succeeded, which will be your preferred option? There is more joy when elderly parents discovered that their son, who gave excuses why he and his family wouldn't honour their invitation for a family Christmas, later changed his mind on Christmas day and rang to say "Dad, we are coming, we are on our way". What the son did, for sure, is better than to say "Dad, we will come" and he and his family never turned up. The readings of today are encouraging us to have a rethink whenever we are in the wrong and change our minds to become obedient children of God. This analogy makes sense in a situation where parents and grandparents love their children and grandchildren as God loves us his children.

Jesus, in today's Gospel reading used a similar analogy. A man, who had two sons, requested each of them to go and help out in the farm. The first said 'no' to his father, but later changed his mind and went. The second said 'yes, sure! I will', but never went. And Jesus asked the chief priests and the elders of the people, "Which of the two did the father's will?". But the answer was obvious - that the saying of 'no' to a good cause and doing it later, gives more joy than saying 'yes' to it and never doing it. The second son made his father happy in the morning but made him go to bed incredibly sad. The first son, however, made his father sad for a while but gave him the joy of the day and a peaceful night of not worrying how to get the work done. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus said: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven" (Matthew 7:21-23, please read more).

So, it is not only what we say, but the fruits of obedience we are able to produce, that count. The words of Samuel to the disobedient Saul, the first King of Israel: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obedience to the LORD's command? Obedience is better than sacrifice, to listen, better than the fat of rams. For a sin of divination is rebellion, and arrogance, the crime of idolatry" (1 Samuel 15:22-23).

Some Christians make a lot of sacrifices but forget to do the simple things demanded by love of God and neighbour. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus exclaimed, "Woe to you... hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices—mint, dill and cumin. **But you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practised the latter, without neglecting the former** (Matthew 23:23). We should not neglect or stop the sacrifices we make (like prayers, going to church regularly, fasting, prophesying, preaching, etc), but complete them with love which is what mercy, justice and faithfulness are. Our good character is important if we want others to see Christ in us. We are supposed to live the life of Christ, living only for him (please read 1 Cor. 5:14-15). And that is what it means to be a Christian – that Christians be Christ – in His holiness, love and mercy – to others. That is how we become light to the world and salt to the earth (please read Matthew 5:13-16).

Some of us, sometimes, may have made promises to God or agreed to do something for God and didn't follow through with it. At one point or the other, some of us, when prompted and inspired by the Holy Spirit in our hearts or through other people's preaching, to do good or avoid evil, have said 'no', but later thought about it and did what was required. There is no need to harden our hearts to the promptings of the Holy Spirit to change.

We should have the mind of Christ. St Paul, in today's second reading, exhorts us to have the kind of mind Jesus has. We should imitate Jesus in his humility and obedience to his Father. Jesus, though he was God, equal with the eternal Father, did not hold on to his equality with the Father as a reason to disobey Him. He could have disobeyed, especially, when he didn't want the suffering. Rather he went into prayers and said, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet, not as I will, but as you will." (Matthew 26:39). And because, Christ was obedient unto death on a cross, the Father lifted Him up, exalted Him and gave him a Name which is above all names (see Second Reading).

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, 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 25th October 2020



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

We pray for the recently deceased: Russel Kurz

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 Humey, 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, Linda Hari, Nona Maguire,

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



ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

The Queensland State Election is coming up on October 31. This is an important opportunity for us to use our voice and our vote for the benefit of the whole community.

Find out more about the issues you might reflect on when casting your vote at <https://bit.ly/35xXSZL>

MINI RETREAT
LAZARUS CONTEMPLATION

During this time of uncertainty, of change, of lack of control, Where is God calling you to be?
3.00PM –5.00PM SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER 2020

Location: St Mary's Worship Centre, 185 Billingham Crescent, Upper Coomera.

What to bring: A visual journal and pen/coloured drawing materials for drawing & writing

Donation: Suggested \$10.00 All Welcome

Retreat Directors: Catherine Smith & Lynne Head-Weir.

Contact Info: Catherine 0401 070 821 or csmith3183@gmail.com
Lynne 0409 198 545 or G.C.I.Arts.C@gmail.com

Week-day Mass Readings

Days	Memorials/Feasts	Readings (R1 and R2)	Gospel Reading
Mon	28/9/20		R1: Job 1:6-22 Lk 9:46-50
Tues	29/9/20	Sts Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels	R1: Dan 7:9-10, 13-14 Jn 1:47-51
Wed	30/9/20	St Jerome	R1: Job 9:1-13, 14-16 Lk 9:57-62
Thurs	1/10/20	St Therese of the Child Jesus	R1: Job 19:21-27 Lk 10:1-12
Fri	2/10/20	Holy Guardian Angels	R1: Ex 23:20-23 Mt 18:1-5,10

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

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 20th September 2020

1ST COLLECTION: \$ 723.50 For Clergy Support (Greatly affected by COVID 19 Crisis)

2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1145.35 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 \$5,925.00 towards this project.

Fr Isidore Enyinnaya