

# 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B - 19 Sep 2021

**First Reading** *Wis 2:12, 17-20* A reading from the book of Wisdom

The godless say to themselves,

'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

**Responsorial Psalm** *Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6*

(R.) The Lord upholds my life.

1. O God, save me by your name;  
by your power, uphold my cause.  
O God, hear my prayers;  
listen to the words of my mouth. (R.)
2. For proud men have risen against me,  
ruthless men seek my life.  
They have no regard for God. (R.)
3. But I have God for my help.  
The Lord upholds my life.  
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart  
and praise your name for it is good. (R.)

**Second Reading** *Jas 3:16 – 4:3* A reading from the letter of St James

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

**Gospel Acclamation** *See 2 Thes 2:14*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
God has called us with the gospel  
to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel** *Mk 9:30-37* A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

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## Farewell Donation to Fr Isidore

Envelopes are available at the Church entrance for donations to Fr Isidore as he returns to Nigeria.

25th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME YR B — 19 SEPTEMBER 2021



**ST BRIGID'S CATHOLIC PARISH**  
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**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday & Thursday 9.00am to 12 noon. Tuesday & Friday 9.00am to 3.30pm

### PASTORAL & ADMINISTRATION TEAM:

**Parish Priest:** Fr Isidore Enyinnaya. **Ph:** 0406 571 737 **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

Dear people of God

Jesus, in today's gospel reading from St Mark, predicts for the second time, his imminent passion, death and resurrection. We heard the first of these predictions read last Sunday, following Peter's answer that he is the Christ, the Son of God. At that moment, Jesus had started feeling the tension his ministry was creating between him and the crowd on one hand, and the chief priests, the elders, the Pharisees and the Scribes on the other. He could sense their conspiracy, as the Book of Wisdom detailed in the first reading. Yes! Jesus is that virtuous man who was annoying and opposing them, who reproached them for their breaches of the law and accused them of playing false to their upbringing. They planned to kill him out of jealousy (envy) and selfish ambition. They would eventually bring him before Pilate, who would realise that they "had handed Jesus over to him out of envy" (Matthew 15:10).

Hence, Jesus' predictions came true. This second prediction about his passion and death followed Jesus' transfiguration on the mountain, and the healing of a boy from whom he cast out a dumb and deaf spirit. As Peter professed Jesus to be the Christ, the Son of God, so on the mountain of the Transfiguration, the Father revealed again, not through Peter this time (see Matthew 16:13-23), but by speaking directly from the clouds: "This is my beloved son. Listen to him". With the giving of this revelation, Jesus started teaching his disciples, especially the twelve, to prepare their minds to understand the humiliating and dehumanising effects of the suffering, crucifixion and death he was to undergo; and the glorious resurrection that will be the high point of his Paschal mystery. But the disciples "did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him". Why were they afraid to ask?

Maybe, because Jesus rebuked and called Peter Satan when Peter remonstrated with him after his first prediction (see last Sunday's gospel reading). They did not understand, and they did not ask. The disciples' lack of understanding even showed in their insensitivity to Jesus' immediate and proximate suffering. They were inconsiderate and lacked compassion. Instead of sharing in their Master's plight, they were busy arguing who was the first and greatest among them. When they arrived at Capernaum, Jesus asked what they were arguing about on their way.

They could not answer because they knew their argument was wrongly motivated, maybe by jealousy and/or selfish ambition. Are we like the disciples? How often do we fail in our duties as Christians, and as our brother's/sister's keeper because of jealousy, selfishness and worldly ambition? I hope not too often. We all see Jesus every day in our brothers and sisters, especially, in those who are suffering. Are we sensitive, considerate and compassionate to their plight? Thanks to the many people who show the face of Jesus to those in need by following the example of our compassionate Saviour, who came not to be served but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many (Matthew 20:28). As St Paul encourages us: "let us not become tired of doing good; for if we do not give up, the time will come when we will reap the harvest" (Gal. 6:9).

Being considerate, compassionate, kind and sensitive to other people's problems are fruits of the pure and peace-full wisdom from above which shows itself in all kinds of good works. St James, in today's second reading, contrasted these with jealousy and selfish ambition as two great evils, which are inconsistent with peaceful co-existence. And wherever these two are found, "wicked things of every kind" are bound to be found also. According to St James, they are the fruits of that wisdom that comes from self and from evil spirits (3:14). War, quarrelling and fighting among people, and all that militate against people's peaceful coexistence, start in hearts full of this evil wisdom. Fierce vibes of doubt, questioning, fears, jealousy, shame, sloth, etc., insinuated into our carnal thinking by the devil can, in their disguises, confuse us, Christians, into thinking we are wise and right in some of our (spiritually) counter-productive decisions.

The disciples showed their lack of heavenly wisdom. And so, Jesus used that opportunity to teach them the secret of peaceful coexistence: humility and service. St Paul tells us to have the type of mind Jesus had – that frame of mind, that attitude, that made him to humbly accept the shameful death on a cross, though he was God's Son (Philippians 2:5-11). In humble obedience Jesus accepted suffering and death for our sake. He took the last place, a criminal's position, and made himself servant and saviour of all. Therefore, anyone of his disciples who wants to be first, must make him-/herself "last of all and servant of all".

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

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Primary  
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MATTHEW VINE  
Principal

## MASS AND PRAYER TIMES AT ST BRIGID'S CHURCH

### Week Day Mass

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and 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 TBA**

### Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm  
Sunday 8.30 am sometimes live streamed

10.30am - except 4th Sundays for  
Beechmont ...see below.

St John's Windabout Road, Beechmont 4th Sunday of each month - 10.30am  
Next Mass at St John's TBA

### Rosary

Monday, Tuesday, Friday at 7.30 am  
Saturday at 8.30am. Sunday 8.00am

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

Mass at Earle Haven - TBA



## Week-day Mass Readings

Days		Memorials/Feasts	Readings (R1 and R2)	Gospel Reading
Mon	20/9/21	Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, priest, martyr, Paul Chong Ha-sang & companions, martyrs	R1: Ezra 1:1-6	Lk 8:16-18
Tues	21/9/21	St. Matthew, apostle	R1: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13	Mt 9:9-13
Wed	22/9/21	Wednesday 25th Wk in Ord Time	R.1: Ezra 9:5-9	Lk 9:1-6
Thurs	23/9/21	St. Pius of Pietrelcina, priest	R 1: Haggai 1:1-8	Lk 9:7-9
Fri	24/9/21	Friday 25th Wk in Ord Time	R1: Haggai 1:15-2:9	Lk 9:18-22

## Rosary and Candlelight Procession

will be held on the last Friday of each month commencing at 6.00pm. The next is on 24th September 2021. All are welcome.

### PLEASE NOTE:

**SUNDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2021**

**MASS WILL BE AT 9.30AM**

**IN LIEU OF 8.30AM AND 10.30AM**

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

**We pray for the recently deceased:** Luisa Teofilo, Daniel Lawson

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

**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:** Graham Meakin, Christina Hendriksen, Doreen Slater, Peter Doring, Ian Robins, Brenda Dale, Shawn Marshall, Shirley Ryan.

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



## HOSPITAL CALLS

Robina Hospital - Burleigh Heads Parish on 5576 6466  
Pindara Hospital - Surfers Paradise Parish 5572 5433  
John Flynn Hospital - Coolangatta-Tugun Parish on 5598 2165  
University & Gold Coast Private Hosp-Southport Parish 5510 2222

## Morning Tea Roster

Anyone interested in being on the Sunday morning Tea Roster please contact Betty 0438 130 322.

Covid Safe Work Training for Dining In is a requirement. See Betty for details.

## 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

September 19, 2021

### 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." (Mark 9:35)

Jesus teaches us that we are called to love one another. Love involves sacrifice. Sacrifice is a word that many of us don't like to hear. We think it means that we must give up something that we want. However, the literal meaning of sacrifice is "to make holy," from the words "sacer" = sacred and "facere" = to make. In other words, we make our lives holy by sharing our gifts in the service of God. [www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections](http://www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections)

## PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The Planned Giving Envelopes are available for collection this weekend. Some of the Envelope numbers have been changed due to the reduction in the number of envelopes requested.

Should you decide to change to Direct Debit please disregard the Envelopes.


## ST BRIGID'S PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIALS as at 12th September 2021

1ST COLLECTION: \$ 526.15 For Clergy Support

2ND COLLECTION: \$ 1081.25 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



## Have you thought? Last of all?

Jesus tells his disciples that if anyone wants to be first, they must make themselves last of all and servant of all. This is as challenging to us today as it was to the disciples and early Christians. Our world seems to revolve around position, status and power - whoever has the most toys wins! But what Jesus advocated was a leadership based on being of service to others. Being powerful simply means you are in a position to help even more people. By putting yourself last, instead of first, gives respect, dignity and power to others rather than to yourself.