

Fourth Sunday of Advent Yr A – 18 December 2022

First Reading Is 7:10-14 *A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:1-6. R. see vv 7. 10

(R.) Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

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| <p>1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. (R.)</p> <p>2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. (R.)</p> | <p>3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. (R.)</p> |
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Second Reading Rom 1:1-7 *A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 1:23

Alleluia, alleluia!
A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 1:18-24 *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

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OFFICE HOURS: During January only: Tuesday & Friday 9.00 am—1.30pm
 Please note: the Office will be closed between Christmas & New Years.

PASTORAL & ADMINISTRATION TEAM:

<p><i>Parish Administrator: Fr Albert Wasniowski OSPPE</i> <i>Ph: 0402 001266 / wasniowskia@bne.catholic.net.au</i></p> <p><i>Parish Secretary: Lenette Evans</i></p> <p><i>Administration Assistant : Gurli Pennings</i></p>	<p><i>Fr Jeremy Santoso OSPPE</i> <i>Ph: 0418877906 / santosoj@bne.catholic.net.au</i></p> <p><i>Office Email: nerang@bne.catholic.net.au</i></p> <p><i>Parish WHS & Safeguarding Officer: Tim Horvat</i></p>
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Just Man Dreaming

Joseph could not ignore Mary's pregnancy, but he had an exceptional large-heartedness, so that he preserved a future for Mary even though she had apparently wronged him.

If he had gone to sleep in a frame of mind to avenge his honour, he would not have been ready to have the deepest levels of his consciousness stirred in the way God wanted. In the deep sleep of a just and good man, Joseph was enlightened as to the divine dimension of Mary's pregnancy. The old cycle of human history, literally generation after generation, was being broken. Something utterly new had happened.

You and I are just as likely to receive an intuition as to God's plan for us in the depths of sleep: who we really are, who we are destined to be, where we fit in to God's plan for transforming the whole of creation. When we get these instructive moments in our sleep, what can we do when we wake up? We can do what Joseph did: get up and do what is needed to fulfil the message.

We could pause for a moment to thank Joseph for showing what dreams can be made of. Tonight might be the night!

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Many thanks to everyone for supporting our Cake Stall last week. A total of \$500 has been raised. Well done !



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

MATTHEW VINE
Principal

MASS AND PRAYER TIMES AT ST BRIGID'S CHURCH

Week Day Mass

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 7.00 am
Wednesday 6.00 pm
Saturday Morning 9.00 am



Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm
Sunday 8.30 am sometimes live streamed

St John's Windabout Road, Beechmont Christmas Day 8.30am and
1st Sunday of each month - 9.00am
1st January 2023

Next Mass at St John's

Rosary

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 6.30 am
Saturday at 8.30am. Sunday 8.00am

Divine Mercy Prayer Thursday 7.30 am
Adoration in Church Wednesday 5.30pm followed by 6.00pm Mass

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Saturday 9.30 am

Reconciliation: St Brigid's Church Saturdays 8:15am & 5:15 pm and
Wednesday 5:15 pm

Mass at Earle Haven - 13th January 2023 9:15am

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

We pray for the recently deceased : Vera Horvat, Christopher Alroy

We pray for the departed whose anniversaries occur at this time: Clive Scrivens, Shirley Ryan, Bruce Hudson

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: John Carney,

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



**THE SHRINE OF MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
MARIAN VALLEY MASS TIMES**

Weekday Mass is at 9.00 am Monday to Friday

Saturday Mass time is 11.00am Sunday Mass times 11.00am and 4.00pm



HOSPITAL CALLS

Robina Hospital - Burleigh Heads Parish 5576 6466
Pindara Hospital - Surfers Paradise Parish 5572 5433

John Flynn Hosp -Coolangatta-Tugun Parish 5598 2165
University & Gold Coast PrivHosp-Southport Parish
5510 2222

BAPTISM PRAYERS

We pray for Bonnie Marie Barley who is
being baptised this week. We pray she will
grow in grace and wisdom and abound with
the love of God all through life. We pray for her
family and Godparents.

Tap & Go

You will notice a new Tap & Go machine at the church entrance. This is a very handy method of giving to St. Brigid's. The machine has been pre-set so that One tap equals \$10, two taps equals \$20 and multiples thereof. This takes care of the problem of being caught without cash and is a great benefit to our parish. Please use before or after Mass, not during.

GOSPEL FOCUS

What's in a name?

It appears from the passage that Mary's child is to be called both Jesus and Emmanuel. Emmanuel is not intended as a different name for Jesus but rather one of the many titles that will be applied to him. The title means God-is-with-us. That one word, Emmanuel, sums up the essence of Jewish and Christian belief. The Jewish people's faith in God was built on the basis that God travelled with them and through their lives. Christians believe that God took on an even closer sense of being with us through God's incarnation in the life of Jesus.

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

Come and pray the Nine days pre-Christmas dawn masses from 16th to 24th December

The 9-day masses is a tradition celebrated in the Phillipines, known as "Simbang Gabi", which means "Mass of the Rooster". The tradition traces its roots back to Mexico in 1587, when Fr. Diego de Soria, from the convent of San Augustin Acolman, petitioned the Pope for permission to hold Christmastide Masses outdoors because the church could not accommodate the multitude that attended the dawn services.

It was in the 16th century when Pope Sixtus V decreed that these pre-dawn Masses be also held in the Philippines starting every 16th December, under the conditions that the intentions would be offered for Holy Catholic Church, for the propagation of the faith and preservation of the newly baptised. The decree was in keeping with the nine-day traditional festivals of Filipinos in celebrating auspicious occasions like harvest times. It was also meant to give farmers a chance to hear Mass before setting out for the fields.

All are invited to participate in these masses from 5am each day from the 16th to 24th December.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Reconciliation Times: Wednesday 21 December 6:00pm (2nd Rite of Reconciliation)

Mass Times

Christmas Eve—Vigil Mass 6.00pm

Christmas Day—Midnight 12.00am; Morning 8:30 am

Carols for 15 minutes prior to Christmas Vigil & Midnight Mass

New Years Day Vigil Saturday 6:00pm & Sunday 8:30am



STOPline

If you think it's wrong...report it.

STOPline is an independent service that receives information about suspected abuse, harm and other serious misconduct by workers (including priests, religious, employees, educators, practitioners, support workers and volunteers). Phone 1300 304 550 Email: AOB@stopline.com.au
Online Report: www.bneatholic.stoplinereport.com
Information can be provided anonymously..

ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE



Safeguarding Commitment
The Archdiocese has zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.