



ST BRIGID'S CATHOLIC PARISH
 39-49 McLAREN ROAD, NERANG
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 WEBSITE: www.stbrigidsparishnerang.org.au
 OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Friday 9.00 am—1.30pm

PASTORAL & ADMINISTRATION TEAM:

Parish Administrator: Fr Albert Wasniowski OSPPE **Office Email:** nerang@bne.catholic.net.au
Ph: 0402 001266 / wasniowskia@bne.catholic.net.au **Administration Assistant :** Gurli Pennings
Parish Secretary: Lenette Evans **Parish WHS & Safeguarding Officer:** Tim Horvat

Sixth Sunday in Ord Time Yr A – 12th February 2023

First Reading Sir 15:15-20 *A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus*

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

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| <p>1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)</p> <p>2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. (R.)</p> | <p>3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. (R.)</p> <p>4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. (R.)</p> |
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Second Reading 1 Cor 2:6-10 *A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Mt 5:17-37 *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

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Truth-Telling

We have just heard the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, 'Do not swear at all ... instead let your "yes" mean yes and your "no" mean no. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.'

This is strong language. Why does Our Lord say this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, he teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to use God's name in that way. The use of God's name for oath-swearing is an *abuse*.

Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person truths.

We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim. (James 5:12-13)

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: 'Teach them to keep *all* that I have commanded you.' (Matthew 28:20)

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Please keep Fr. Albert & other pilgrims in your prayers as they travel to the Holy Land for 3 weeks. He will be praying for us as well.

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It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

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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 1st Sunday of each month - 9.00am
Next Mass at St John's 5th March 2023

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 - To be advised 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 :

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: Lenette Evans, Michael Nolan, 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

Please come and join us at the Marian Valley Church for the feast of Our Lady of Fatima on the 13.02.2023. The bus will be picking up at 8.15 am at the Sacred Heart Church Clear Island Waters. The Cost for the bus fare \$25.00 return. You can secure your seat with contact name and contact phone number with Xavier Solomon 0404 843 260, Madeleine on 0405 252 367 or 5529 1573,. All are welcome. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Xavier on 0404 843 260.

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.*

Have you thought?
Teaching examples

Jesus cites several examples of the Law to demonstrate the way in which he has come to fulfil those teachings, rather than to abolish them. He reinterprets the teachings on killing, adultery, divorce and oath-breaking. When there is an attitude of observing the very literal meaning of law, there is a tendency to look for loopholes wherever possible. This attitude had become the norm in Jesus' day. His reinterpretations are designed to challenge people to think about the law in a broader context and to take the law into their heart rather than looking for ways to get around it.

RCIA Program 2023

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and being baptised as an adult? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) will be starting soon and details are available from the Parish Office.

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.bncatholic.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.

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

Do you wish to be part of St. Brigid's Parish? Please complete a Census Form located at the back of the church and return to the priest or drop on collection plate. Many thanks....



Aid to the Church in Need
ACN AUSTRALIA

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: ACN is the Pontifical Foundation dedicated to supporting the suffering and persecuted Church.

Aid to the Church in Need is still supporting the Catholic Church in Ukraine in its commitment to stay on the ground and keep serving its flock in the face of material and economic war. ACN is helping priests and religious, who are working across the country in parishes, with refugees, in orphanages and homes for the elderly. The main cities where we are sending immediate help are Kyiv, Zaporizhyya, Odessa and the region of Donetsk. We are doing everything we can to assist our Ukrainian brothers and sisters to be strengthened in their faith so that they may continue to be a light in Ukraine. ACN needs your help to continue this mission. To make an offering and learn more visit <https://aidtochurch.org/ukraine>

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time "For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."
MATTHEW 5:20

The Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it's the love that you have in your heart, for God and others, that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules to the letter and not out of love, does not necessarily put you on the path to heaven. Attending Sunday Mass and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of being a modern day Pharisee. <https://www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin-inserts/weekly-bible-reflections>