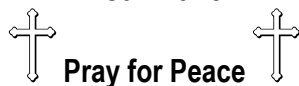


Year 2019



Pray for Peace

Parish Website:

www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com

Parish Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stjosephsbrackenridge

Parish Email:

bridge@bne.catholic.net.au

2nd Sunday of Advent
8th of December

Liturgical Calendar

Today:

Year C. Mass prepared by Group 1.

Readings:

Isaiah 11:1-10. Psalm 71. Romans 15:4-9.
Matthew 3:1-12.

Next Week 14-15/12.

Isaiah 35:1-6,10. Psalm 145. James 5:7-10.
Matthew 11:2-11.

Mass Times:

Bracken Ridge/Bald Hills – Sat. 6pm. Sun.
7:30am & 9am.

Brighton – Sat. 5pm. Sun. 7am.

Sandgate – Sun. 9am. & 5pm.

Zillmere – Sat. 6pm. Sun. 7am. 9am. & 5pm.

Reconciliation:

Every Sat. 5:15pm to 5:45pm and before all
weekend Masses.

Weekday Mass or Liturgy: 9am.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

Readings:

Mon. Genesis 3:9-15,20. P.97. Luke 1:26-38.

Tue. Isaiah 40:1-11. P. 95. Matthew 18:12-14.

Wed. Isaiah 40:25-31. P.102. Matthew 11:28-30.

Thu. Isaiah 41:13-20. P.144. Matthew 11:1-15.

Fri. Isaiah 48:17-19. P.11. Matthew 11:16-19.

Sat. Ecc.48:1-4,9-12. P.79. Matthew 17:10-13.

Mass at Home:

Both City and Regional. Channel 10. Sundays
at 6am. Mass is available for viewing at
any time at <http://www.mfyah.com.au>

St. Stephen - Cathedral Mass:

Live at 10am., every Sunday on website:
<http://bne.catholic.net.au/webcast>

Communion for the Sick:

To share our Sunday liturgies with sick family
members and/or friends, please see
Leader/Coordinator before Mass.

Reflection from:- the Word among us.

Parish News

St. Joseph's and St Anthony's Bracken Ridge and Bald Hills

Reflection.

Reflection on the Gospel-2nd Sunday of
Advent Year A
(Matthew 3:1-12)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Desertification of earth is becoming the norm in these troubled times of ours and wilderness or desert features powerfully in today's gospel reading. The desert is the biblical place of encounter with God, the place of beginnings and of testing. The voice of John the Baptizer is heard in the Judean desert. His food and clothing are desert-derived. John is identified as the one of whom Isaiah spoke, the voice crying out in the wilderness, "Prepare the way..." Ecologically, the Isaian image is confronting: preparing the way involves major earthworks that reconfigure the landscape, levelling the mountains and filling the valleys to create straight paths. Yet the way is never straight and the metaphor must not be literalised. John knows this. The preparation he calls for is ongoing *metanoia* or reevaluating: keep on turning your lives around, keep on expanding your horizons, for the kin-dom of the heavens is "close at hand". The kin-dom is both present and yet still approaching: the verb used here, *engiken*, allows for this ambiguity.

The first reading from Isaiah (11:1-10) provides content to the notion of kin-dom or *basileia*: John is announcing the advent of God's long awaited empire of justice and right relationship. He offers a baptism of repentance (*metanoia*). In other words, John's baptism presupposes a commitment to a renewed way of life. His ministry is hugely effective. It attracts "people of Jerusalem, all Judea and the region along the Jordan River." The arrival of two groups of religious authorities prompts a fierce response: "you brood of vipers". John has no patience with those who use their privileged positions to seek their own advantage. He challenges them with the striking image of the "more powerful one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire" and will sort out those who refuse to turn their lives around (the chaff) from those who listen to the call for *metanoia* (the wheat). The latter are "gathered in" while the former are burned "in a fire that never goes out".

Fire is a multi-faceted image in the biblical record. Here it is used metaphorically for the judgment on the wicked. Fire, as we well know in this dry land, is a challenging symbol: it is both friend and foe. In the first-century *Manual of Discipline* from the Qumran community

by the Dead Sea, water, refining by fire, and "a holy Spirit" are listed together as the instruments of God's saving and purifying action. John, who may have been a member of the Qumran community, presents his own role as preparatory to that of Jesus, the Spirit-filled, powerful and enduring agent of God's refining and purifying work in the world. We recognise our own ongoing need for a "baptism" with the Holy Spirit and fire. We prepare the way by constantly expanding our vision and turning our lives around in the direction of God's reign of compassionate care.



Pray for Peace

Parish Priest: Fr. Gerry Hefferan Ph: 3269 0446.

Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults
Representative: Clare Kennedy

Pastoral Coordinator: Margaret Halpin

Sacramental Coordinator: Helen Hickey

School: 30 Eldorado St, Bracken Ridge. Principal:
Mr. Gary Creevey, Ph: 3261 2858.

St. John Fisher College: John Fisher Drive,
Bracken Ridge. Principal: Ms. Catherine Galvin,
3269 8188.

Parish Office: Bronwyn Venzke,
bridge@bne.catholic.net.au Ph: 3261 3670.
Monday, Tuesday & Friday mornings.

St Vincent de Paul: Jeff Walsh

Parish Care Group: Marcia Caruso

Youth Leader: Emma Beach

Hospitality Group: June and Keith De Brouge,

Newsletter: Barbara Masterman (Cut-off time:
noon Fridays).

Please leave the area facing the Parish Centre
free for the elderly and those among us who
have some mobility difficulties and need our
sensitivity with parking even if it appears the
area is not being used.

Christmas Dates.

Reconciliation (Individual Rite). 21/12. 4.30-5.45pm.
Christmas Carols Concert. 21/12. 7.30pm. (in the Father Bernie Costigan Centre).

Christmas Eve Family Mass.

24/12. 6pm. Carols from 5.40pm. (In the Father Bernie Costigan Centre).

Christmas Eve Mass.

24/12. 9pm. Carols from 8.40pm.

Christmas Day Family Mass.

25/12. 9am. Carols from 8.40am.

Christmas Eve Choir.

All musicians and singers are warmly invited to help lift hearts and souls on Christmas Eve. A **Practice** will be held on Tue. 17/12 at 7.30pm., in the Church.

Practice for a Children's Nativity Pageant during the 6pm., Mass on Christmas Eve will be held on Mon. 23/12 at 9.45am., in the Father Bernie Costigan Centre. All children welcome. Enq. Emma Beach

St Joseph's Community Christmas Carols.

Saturday 21/12 at 7.30pm., in the Father Bernie Costigan Centre. Sausage Sizzle available directly after 6pm. Mass. Please plan to stay after Mass and join in the fun! Come along and enjoy a wonderful night of music and song as we come closer to celebrating the birth of Jesus. Please spread the word All Welcome! A donation from each family would be appreciated. Proceeds to support our sister Parish in Blackall. Supper available after the Concert. Enq. Phil Halpin

Our prayers matter.

Pray for Peace. Let us all 'Pray@8' Pray@8 cards are available at the doors of the Church. Please take one for yourself and one to give away. "Loving God. Let your gentle presence settle over our troubled lands. Teach us to walk in the way of your peace. Amen."

Children's Liturgy.

Today will be the final session for the year. Years Prep – Three are invited to join us in the Parish Centre during the Liturgy of the Word. Enq. Barbara
Many thanks to our Volunteer Catechists: Josh. Angela. Kathleen. Alice. Robyn and Barbara

Kindy Liturgy.

Sessions will be announced at the commencement of 9am., Mass. Children aged 3, 4 & 5 are invited to join us in the Parish Centre during the Liturgy of the Word. Enq. Margaret

We Pray God's Healing touch and love-

-for all those who are sick and for those who care for them.

To have family/friends included in our newsletter, first please check that the person for whom you are requesting prayers is happy to have their name printed in our newsletter. Enq. Barbara

Condolence.

Our prayers and thoughts are with those who have recently lost loved ones.

Recently Deceased:

Memorial:

All our deceased family members and friends.

Parish Pastoral Council.

Our Parish family continues our exploration of the other five Plenary Council 2020 Themes.

If you have any ideas or concerns within the Parish please raise them with your pastoral councillors personally or alternatively by sending an email to bridge@bne.catholic.net.au with the heading "For the attention of the Pastoral Council".

Liturgy Roster.

Liturgy Preparation.

For weekend 21-22/12. Group 3. Enq. Barbara Masterman. All interested parishioners are invited and welcome to attend any of the preparation sessions. Please contact the leader for dates, time and venue.

Leaders/ Proclaimers of the Word.

For next weekend, 14-15/12. Group 2

Eucharistic Ministers.

For next weekend. Group 2.

Music Ministry.

For next weekend. Group 2

Servers.

If you would like to serve, please see Fr. Gerry before Mass.

Counters Roster.

15/12. Group 2. Debbie, Matthew & Julian. 22/12.

Group 3. Terry, Rita, Michael & Debbie.

Newsletter Photocopying.

Rostered 14/12. Anna

Vocation Views.

Isaiah says: "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the Lord". Who taught you knowledge of the Lord, and who are you teaching today?

The Lights of Christmas.

At St Stephen's Cathedral. This free, family-friendly event incorporates a spectacular light show projected onto the walls of the Cathedral, while a kaleidoscope of moving colour will transform the adjacent chapel. This event will run from Wednesday, 11/12 until Christmas Eve and include music, food and children's activities from 6.30pm., followed by the 12-minute show running continuously from 7pm.

Archdiocesan/Secular Calendar.

815-/12. 2nd & 3rd Sundays of Advent. Centacare CFRS. The Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary. Australian Catholic Youth Festival. Our Lady of Guadalupe. Saints Juan Diego of Cuauhtlatotzin. Damascus 1. Lucy. John of the Cross.

RCIA. Enq. Margaret Halpin

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility

Concerns/Complaints?

Archdiocese of Brisbane - Office for Safeguarding Services
P: 3324 3752

E: safeguarding@bne.catholic.net.au

STOPLine Service

STOPLine is an external service provided for the Archdiocese to receive confidential disclosures.

Disclosures can be made anonymously.

P: 1300 304 550

E: AOB@stopline.com.au

Queensland Police Service

All incidents and concerns that may be criminal should be reported directly to the police for investigation.

P: Policelink 131 444 Crimestoppers 1800 333 000

E: policelink@police.qld.gov.au

Child Safety Services

If you suspect a child in need of protection from abuse or neglect is being harmed or neglected, contact Child Safety Services.

P: 1800 177 135 or 3235 9999 (After hours)

Website: www.communities.qld.gov.au/childsafety

Religious Leaders Common Statement on End of Life Care.

Dying well is an important part of what it means to flourish as individuals and communities. We support high-quality palliative care, better conversations about death and dying and provision for the spiritual dimension of healing such as chaplaincy and pastoral care. A full text of document is found here: <http://archbne.org/dtyk>

Euthanasia—We Can Live Without It E-Petition

It is a fairly simple process to add your voice of opposition to VAD/ euthanasia via the Petition link here: <https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-assembly/petitions/petitiondetails?id=3176>

Our Library –

-is situated in the Workroom to the left as you enter the Church. Just make your choice and write your name and the title of the borrowed book in the booklet provided.

St. Vincent de Paul –

Christmas Cards and Columban Calendars are on sale now. Columban Calendars \$10 each.

Christian Christmas Cards \$4 for a pack of 8.

'Keep Christ in Christmas Stickers are \$1 per sheet.

Prayer Blog.

See Parish Blog updates on our website and on the board near the Sacristy. Parishioners are invited to write and share how they pray and to share reflections.

Care for Creation.

All of us can co-operate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own culture, experience, involvements and talents". (Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* On Care for our Common Home.14).

<https://stjosephsbrackenridgecareforcreation.weebly.com/past-events.html>

Parish Care for Creation group. The Parish Care for Creation Group meets in the Parish Centre at 4.45pm., on the third Saturday of each month. All very welcome. Enq Rosemary and Peter Bugden

Nouwen Network.

The Nouwen's purpose is to support all those suffering from mental illness and their families, across all faith communities. Enq. Gloria

Journey Catholic Radio Programme.

www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and or subscribe to weekly shows by email.

St. Joseph's School.

The 2020 start will be Wednesday, 29/1. The P & F. hires out the Tennis Courts. A Working Bee will be held on Sat. 18/01/2020 from 8 – 11am. It would be great to see as many helpers as possible. If you would like to use the Courts on weekends, contact evenings or holidays, email STBRtennis@gmail.com.

WHS Incident Report.

Parishioners and visitors are reminded of the requirement to immediately report any health or safety incident, injury or damage that occurs within our Parish. Reporting assists our Parish to provide the necessary assistance, take remedial action and provide mandatory notifications to the Archdiocese and the Division of Work Health and Safety QLD.

Following on from the Royal Commission.

Specialist Support – Updated

Director of Professional Standards Office (Qld)
Helpline - 1800 337 928
Centacare Family and Relationship Services -
Brisbane 07 3251 5000
Lifeline - 13 11 14
UnitingCare – Chermshire 07 3624 2400
Living Well - Strathpine 07 3028 4648

Finding God in the Quiet Centre.

A weekend opportunity for women to leave behind the chaos and clutter that can be a part of life and enter in to quiet in community. Come and experience a time of prayerful reflection in the beauty of God's good creation. Facilitated by Grace Harwood (Dragonfly Ministries). Fri. 13/12. 6pm., to Sun. 15/12. 3pm., at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Wellington Street, Ormiston. \$370 (\$340 for pensioners, f/t students and unemployed) includes all accommodation, meals, resources and facilitation. An additional \$30 fee for those with special diets. Enq. Grace Harwood, Dragonfly Ministries: grace@dragonflyministries.net.au or 0409 524 283.

Saint Therese Of Lisieux - Australian Visit 2020.

The Catholic Leader reports a family of saints – the relics of St. Thérèse of Lisieux and her parents Sts. Louis and Zélie Martin – will be touring Australia for the first time in 18 years. From February through May 2020, the relics will travel to Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia. The visit was organised by Catholic Mission, which has partnered with InvoCare to bring the relics to 17 Australian dioceses. A draft itinerary (subject to change) shows the relics travelling to Brisbane on 5/2, and then visiting Coorparoo. Mt. Carmel 6-7/2. Springfield Parish 7-8/2. Cathedral Parish 9-10/2. Gympie Parish (Gunalda and Gympie Church 10-11/2. Caboolture Parish (Bongaree Church 11/2. Kedron Parish 11-12/2. Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre Ormiston (February 13); Burleigh Heads Parish (February 13–14) and Nerang Parish (Allambie Park and Marian Valley Retreat—February 14-15) before heading to northern NSW.

Lawn Maintenance.

Anas Raed: 0413 271 432. David Nabeel: 0490 388 459. Email: da.mowingservices@gmail.com

Blackall/Tambo Update.

Once again the people of Blackall were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Parishioners and friends of the Bracken Ridge Parish. The 2019 St Joseph's Parish Blackall Fete was a great success. "Thank You" to all who contributed so generously. Our Team will be giving a Presentation at all Masses THIS WEEKEND. Many Thanks to this year's Blackall Team - Maurice & Glenda Murdoch, Greg & Sharyn McLagan, Michael &

Debbie Dee Gee, Kerry Lewry, Mac & Susan Angus-MacInnes. John & Sharyn Rogers.

St Gerard's Christmas Festival.

Nightly until 23/12. Including New Carols by Candlelight Outdoors 21/12 at 7pm. with Renata and Paradise City Band. Massive Light Display, Gift Shop and Op Shop, Coffee Shop, BBQ. Free Musical Entertainment every night. See website for schedule (www.olaparishchermshire.org.au) 146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermshire West.

Ignite Summer Camp.

"All Fired Up". Mapleton. 10-13/1/2020. Four massive days, huge outdoor games and 200 new best mates. Ignite Summer Camp is designed for high schoolers to make awesome real friendships and provide a space to encounter Jesus in a powerful and dynamic way. Earlybird: \$285. Regular; \$310. Earlybird ends 1/12. Family discount and transport options available. Enq. igniteyouth.com/summercamp

Footsteps Of St. Paul.

Journey with St. Paul as you relive the Acts of the Apostles and the famous letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Greek islands in this 10N pilgrimage led by Catholic Priests that features Athens, Corinth, Mykonos, Kusadasi, Crete, Santorini, Hosios Loukas, Delphi, Thessaloniki, Philippi and Kavala for an all-inclusive Land Package price of \$4490 + Tips. Departures Available: 12th May 2020 and 20th Oct 2020. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300721561 or email info@magiholidays.com.au

Its hamper time.

The families of people in prison were so happy with the lovely hampers we made for them the last few years and were so thankful for our kind thoughts. This year we will pack hampers in new Christmas supermarket bags - they have to be carried on public transport; so not too heavy or breakable - nothing over 1 litre or 1 kg please. And no chocolate because of the heat! Suggest Christmas treats eg cakes, puddings, custard, lollies, sweet or savoury biscuits, bonbons, chips. Also useful are non-perishable foods – eg cans of ham, fish, tomatoes, fruit; soft drink in cans, juice in cartons. Personal care items are also good. Please bring in a NEW reusable Christmas shopping bag and put them at the back of the church before Sunday 15 Dec, when we will pack from 2 pm. Helpers needed! Phone Sue. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Life Procession.

Pray to End Abortion. Third Saturday of each month. Mass St. Brigid's. Red Hill. 6.30am. Gather at Roma Street Parkland. Walk to Wickham Terrace praying the Rosary. Enq. www.prolifeprocession.org

Poor Box: Your donation to the Poor Box enables the SVDP Society to help those in our community who are in need.

SIMBANG GABI 2019.

A Filipino tradition of joyful waiting for the birth of Jesus - a 9-day pre-Christmas celebrations (15-23 December) with Carols, Holy Mass and fellowship held at different churches around Brisbane North. Here at St. Joseph and St. Anthony's church it will be on Sunday 22/12. 5.30pm. Carols; 6pm. Holy Mass (in English); then Fellowship at Parish Centre. Please, bring a plate to share. Flyers with the complete 9-day schedule can be collected at the back tables of church. For more info: Amando Soriano; Rose McKenzie. Everyone is invited.

Volunteers needed SVCS Bardon 27/12.

Do you have a few hours to spare on 27/12 and would like to give back to the community that shares your values? SVCS Bardon requires a Volunteer bus driver for a special lunch outing with our elderly residents to Sandgate between 9am., and 1:30pm. Only a standard Drivers Licence is required. We also need a few extra hands to help out on the day, so if you would like to join us for this special outing, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Sonia Kovak 3435 7210 or email Sonia.kovac2@svha.org.au

A Prayer from Pope Francis.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.
Help us to recognise the evil latent in a communication that does not build communion.
Help us to remove the venom from our judgements.
Help us to speak about others as our brothers and sisters.

You are faithful and trustworthy; may our words be seeds of goodness for the world:

where there is shouting, let us practise listening;
where there is confusion, let us inspire harmony;
where there is ambiguity, let us bring clarity;
where there is exclusion, let us offer solidarity;
where there is sensationalism, let us use sobriety;
where there is superficiality, let us raise real questions;

where there is prejudice, let us awaken trust;
where there is hostility, let us bring respect;
where there is falsehood, let us bring truth.

Amen.

Memorandum.

Members of our community may choose to have a small wooden cross placed in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel for a period of time, in memory of loved ones who pass away. The chapel can be accessed at any time, so families are welcome to spend time there remembering those who are now at rest in God's peace. Crosses are available on request through Barbara Masterman. This is an initiative of the Parish Pastoral Council, at the suggestion of one of our community and has been made possible by the generosity and giftedness of David Griffiths. Thank you, David.

A Prayer for Reconciliation Unity.

Creator God, may the power of your grace transform us; Christ, give us courage and hope to manifest the unity we have in you, and to share our life with each other and the world; Holy Spirit, empower us to work for justice for people and the earth. God, in your grace, transform the world.

Amen.

Our Parish Family—Sister Parish with Blackall-Tambo Parish in the Diocese of Rockhampton & supporting South Sudan—Patroness St Josephine Bakhita

We acknowledge the Turrbal people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship.

QUICK REFERENCE ...

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy.

Our Parish has implemented the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults policy. We are committed to high standards of recruitment, screening and selection of all our employees and volunteers and undertake intentional strategies to maintain a safe and healthy ministry environment for all.

The SCVA people at the Archdiocese have now divided training into two levels: Level 1 is for nearly all volunteers and covers the basics of SCVA. It can be done online at: www.safeguardingaob.com.au/safeguardingtraining Level 2 Training.

Caboolture Parish. To be confirmed.

Holy Cross Church, 85 Nottingham St., Kippa-Ring. 29/10. 6 – 7.4pm.
<https://www.trybooking.com/531017>
Enq. or assistance with booking contact Terry Tolhurst

Friday Night Prayer Vigils

Quiet prayer and reflection in the Church. 7-8pm. All welcome.

SVDP

Meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month after 9am Mass. Enq Jeff Walsh

Seniors' Group.

This Group meets in the Parish Centre after the 9am. Mass on the first Tuesday of each month. Enq. and/or transport: Therese & Ron

@BNEArchdiocese Mobile App.

Archbishop Mark's Homilies, Mass times, News, events. Enq. brisbanecatholic.org.au

Youth Groups

BLITZ:-

Blitz will next meet Sun. 9/2/20 in the Parish Centre from 4.30 – 6pm. All Grades 4 - 6 welcome.
Enq Emma Beach



ROCK:

Rock will next meet Sun. 2/2/20 in 2020 in the Parish Centre. All Grades from 7 – 12 welcome.
Enq. Emma Beach



SALT:-

Young Adults Group (Ages: 18 to 30). All welcome. Enq. Jess

WAG (World Action Group)



Last weekend we collected \$260.35 for our friends in the Blackall/Tambo Parish.



This weekend we are collecting for Water Wells in South Sudan.



As always, we thank our very generous parishioners for continuing to support our Parish projects.



Enq. Terry and Rita Tolhurst

St Joseph's Craft Group

Our Craft Group meets on the 3rd Monday of every month after the 9am Mass 9.30-11.30am.
Jan or Shirley

Men's Prayer Group

Held every Tuesday evening in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm. All gentlemen of the Parish invited and welcome. Enq. Philip.

Ladies Prayer Group

Held each Wednesday morning in the Church, from 9.30 – 10.30am. This is followed by tea or coffee in the Parish Centre. All most welcome to join us. Enq. Margaret

Cath. Social Justice Council website.

(www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au). Copies of the Statement are available on the Paper Table.

Our Parish Newsletter online

<http://www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com/parishnewsletter.html>

Giving

Our Parish takes up one collection for the support of our priest, parish and contribution to the Archdiocese. It is taken up before the offertory. Current number of Envelope Givers: 59. Current number of Direct Debit Givers: 104.

Thank you for your giving from last weekend:-

Envelopes	\$727.
Direct Debit	\$1351.
Loose	\$975.
Total	\$3053.

Budgeted Weekly Target: \$3404.

Average – Week 48. \$3378.

Should you wish to donate directly to the parish (via your online banking), please use the following account:- **BSB064786 Account 005931500** Bracken Ridge/Bald Hills Catholic Parish.

Please consider joining our Planned Giving Programme

Name:.....

Address:.....

Ph:.....

Email:.....

Please place slip on the collection plate or email Bronwyn Venzke at bridge@bne.catholic.net.au
Many thanks for your support.



Holy Cross
FUNERALS

*The only funeral service owned and operated by
the Catholic Church*

Ph: (07) 3293 0555 Web: www.holycrossfunerals.com