

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

Reflection.

Reflection on the Gospel-3rd Sunday of Lent Year A (John 4:5-42) -Veronica Lawson RSM

Those privileged to act as catechists in the RCIA program over the Lenten period will be introducing candidates to some of our most treasured gospel stories. In 1963, Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy called for the restoration of certain early Church practices. The two main features of Lent, baptism and penance, were to be given greater emphasis in the liturgy and in liturgical catechesis. More use was to be made of the baptismal elements proper to the Lenten liturgy. Some features that were part of an earlier tradition were to be restored. In response to this call, John's stories of the Samaritan woman, the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus were moved from the weekday to the Sunday liturgy. Thus, three weeks into Lent, the liturgy invites us to take a faith journey in the company of a courageous outsider, an unnamed woman from a despised religious group.

A woman of Samaria comes to draw water from the well of Jacob, Israel's great ancestor in faith. She belongs in a long line of women whose lot as women is to undertake the burdensome, often dangerous, daily toil of carrying water so that their families might simply survive. Jesus asks the woman for a drink and elicits a bewildered response. She responds, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" This response provides the opportunity for Jesus to move into an extended and constantly deepening exchange in which the woman proves herself a knowledgeable and worthy dialogue partner. The pursuit of water, a key baptismal symbol in the gospel tradition, provides the catalyst for her journey to faith in Jesus as the Messiah/the Christos and her engagement in the mission of proclaiming the good news to her people.

Commentators tend to focus on the woman's marital status, usually in negative terms. Because she is said to have had five husbands, many presume that she is a sinner: there is nothing in the text to support this position. Successive husbands may have died. Financial, religious or societal constraints may have functioned in her decision to remarry. The "husbands" may refer to the strange gods that claimed the allegiance of the Samaritans. There is no consensus on this among scholars.

At the outset, the woman views Jesus simply as a Jew who breaks with established custom by asking her for water. She comes to accept him as the provider of living water. Jesus understands her life story and opens up the way for her to accept him as a prophet. She takes the risk of sharing her own convictions about the locus of worship and is gifted with new understanding and with Jesus' further selfdisclosure. She leaves her water jar behind and brings others to faith in Jesus as Messiah and saviour of the world. She becomes both disciple and missionary prophet.



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.

ParishOffice:BronwynVenzke,bridge@bne.catholic.net.auPh:32613670.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 Broughe,

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

Prayer To Jesus During Covid-19. We pray to you, Jesus for an increased awareness of, and commitment to, health and communal safety measures for coronavirus COVID-19 in Australia and in our world. in our parish community and in our Archdiocese, in our families, social groups and with our friends, in our rural and urban communities, in our workplaces, businesses, means of transport and social activities, in our schools, day-care centres and playgrounds, in our shopping, travel and leisure, in our love of neighbour. We pray to you, Jesus that we work together as a community to heed the health alerts and not ignore them. to be calm and not panic. to uplift each other's spirits and not be pessimistic, to be open to further change as needed, to love our neighbour. We pray to you, Jesus for the many ways in which we care in our respect of others, in our conversations and activities. in our willingness to adapt our lifestyles, in our gifts of patience and tolerance, in our use of social media, in our personal and communal prayer for others and ourselves. in our love of neighbour. We pray to you, Jesus for people affected in any way by coronavirus, for people who have died and their families, for people who have coronavirus and those who have recovered. for people who are in isolation at home. for people working in hospitals, clinics and medical centres, for people in nursing homes and other community centres. for doctors, nurses, medical staff and medical scientists. for ambulance, emergency service and information technology personnel,

for carers, counsellors and pastoral care ministers. for our love of neighbour. We pray to you, Jesus as family.

Give us the courage to work together as family. We ask your blessing upon us. Amen.

(Fr Gerry Hefferan)

COVID-19 Treatments and Vaccines.

We pray to you, Jesus, for all involved in the search for Treatments and Vaccines for COVID-19. We pray for the medical scientists and researchers. We pray for the safety of people during the trial phases. We pray for health authorities responsible for approval processes.

We pray to you, Jesus, that we remain proactive in our health precautions as we await the development of effective treatments and vaccines. Amen

Corona Virus Update.

Just to let everyone know.

ROCK Youth Group Camp is postponed to later in the year.

The SAUSAGE SIZZLE is also cancelled for the time being and postponed until later in the year.

TEA AND COFFEE (no food) gathering will proceed after this weekend's Masses but will then be discontinued for the immediate future. Many thanks for your continued understanding. Fr. Gerry.

From the Reference Group.

The Catholic Church through the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference asks that we be aware of, and follow some simple guidelines to be best prepared to stay healthy and safe during the current Corona Virus (COVID-19) concerns in Australia and overseas. As communicated by Father Gerry at Mass, some changes you will notice in the church and in practice are:

Holy Water is temporarily removed from the font at the entrance to the church.

Communion from the Chalice will cease until further notice.

If you are unwell or are at particular risk of contracting the virus, please stay at home. Mass from St Stephen's Cathedral can be viewed online at 10am., each Sunday. archbne.org/bzz Wash or sanitise your hands often.

Ministers will take particular care to sanitise hands before and after distribution of Communion. Let's smile and wave to greet each other or when we make the Sign of Peace!

Suggestions for allaying parishioners' fears.

Inform parishioners by printing each week in the newsletter one rock solid fact from reliable source. Affirm one another in safe practices.

Encourage one another to access reliable updates. Suggestions for supporting those who find themselves in quarantine/self-isolation.

Daily phone calls. These can be firstly from friends/ acquaintances in the community and then from volunteers form the parish if more support is needed. Phone calls should be made at least twice a day - morning and evening at a time suitable for the house-bound. The isolated person might like to have an additional contact who would be willing to have a chat during the day. Some common sense, basic suggestions could be provided for callers to ensure phone calls are positive and uplifting, eq: Be positive. Ask open-ended questions: How was your night? How are you really feeling today? Tell me what you've been up to today. Written messages are often much appreciated as they can be revisited. Positive text messages and emails would be great if people have access. Encouraging the housebound to take time to renew or revive an interest eg card games, jigsaws, tending patio garden, music, board games. Meals/groceries could be left at front door. Payment for these would need to be considered on a case by case basis. If quarantined person is unable to work and not receiving wages, emergency relief from SVDP or other agency might be needed. Australian Health Department daily coronavirus alerts.

https://www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com The direct link to the department is

https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novelcoronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert

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.

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."

Report from the World Day of Prayer.

The women of Zimbabwe along with the women of our local Anglican, Baptist, and Uniting Churches and of course ourselves, gathered together for this World Celebrated Ceremony on March 6. About forty-five people attended, and we had some apologies due to the line of thunderstorms. Special thanks to Fr. Gerry, Sue Angus-MacInnes, Anita Smith, and Margaet and Phil Halpin, and to Tony Whiley for his interesting address about a country he clearly loves, and of course, all those who attended.

St. Joseph's Seniors St. Patrick's Day Lunch.

Tuesday 17/3. After Mass on Tuesday, 17/3, please join us, as we carpool from St. Joseph's Church to "Club Pine Rivers". Cnr. Francis & Sparkes Road, Bray Park.. (UBD. Ref. Page 98 L-10). We'll have Morning Tea there. Lunch will be served from 11: 30am. until 2pm. If you'd prefer to meet us at the Club for lunch, just contact Therese or myself, so we'll include you in our table booking. Music from 11.30 – 4.30.. May or may NOT be Irish Music. If you won't be driving your car....PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE PARKED IN THE CHURCH CARPARK. Park in Waruda Street & use the walkway to the Church Carpark. Enquiries: Ron & Therese Kissane

Children's Liturgy.

This recommences this weekend. Our Years Prep – Three are invited to join us in the Parish Centre during the Liturgy of the Word at the 9am. Mass. Rostered 22/3. Alice Grogan. Enq. Barbara

Kindy Liturgy.

Sessions will be announced at the commencement of 9am., Mass. Children aged 3, 4 & 5 will be 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. John Rhule. Joy Drescher. Darren de Warren.

<u>Thank you:</u> Jim and Marie Rhule would like to thank you all for your ongoing prayers for their son John following the operation and treatment for a brain tumour. We are happy to report he is holding his own and has surprised the specialists treating him! The power of prayer is a wonderful blessing. God bless you all.

<u>To have family/friends included</u> 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:

Archbishop John Bathersby <u>A Funeral Vigil Liturgy</u> will be held at 5pm., on Sunday 15 March at The Cathedral of St. Stephen, 277 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane. A Solemn Funeral Mass and Rite of Committal will be held at 11am., on Monday 16 March, at the Cathedral of St. Stephen. Light refreshments will

follow in the Cathedral Grounds.

The Archbishop's body will be taken to St. Stephen's Chapel on Wednesday afternoon at

1.30pm., when a simple ceremony of reception will take place. His coffin will remain there until the funeral liturgies. In that period of time the Chapel will be open for the people of Brisbane to surround him with praver.

Memorial:

All our deceased family members and friends.

Parish Pastoral Council.

20th Anniversary of St Joseph & St Anthony Church Building. Our blessed building where we gather to worship our God was built 20 years ago and we have the anniversary of this building in October. The Parish Pastoral Council is working on a plan to celebrate this over the weekend 24th/25th October and further information is to follow in the coming months. Our Parishes of St Joseph's, Bracken Ridge and St Anthony's, Bald Hills, came together in 1974 and we look forward to 2024 when we will share our stories and celebrate our 50 years together. 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

<u>bridge@bne.catholic.net.au</u> with the heading For the attention of the Pastoral Council".

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Liturgy Roster.

Liturgy Preparation. For weekend 28-29/3. Group 5. Enq. Sue

Hutchinson. 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 21-22/3. Group 4. For next weekend. Group 4.

Music Ministry.

For next weekend. Group 4.

Servers.

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

Counters Roster.

22/3. <u>Group 4.</u> Sunil. Nitin. Marissa. 29/3. <u>Group 5.</u> Brian, Jan & Ann. **Newsletter Photocopying.**

Rostered 21/3. Sunil

Archdiocesan/Secular Calendar.

15-22/3. ^{3rd} & 4th Sundays of Lent. Project Compassion. Centacare FRS Focus. Archbishop's Dinner for Women. Knights of the Southern Cross Queensland Founders Day Mass. Healing Mass. Saints Patrick. Cyril of Jerusalem. Joseph.

St. Joseph's School.

St. Joseph's Prayer Day will be held on Thu. 19/3. The day will commence with a short Assembly and there will be numerous activities in the lead up to lunch. After lunch the students will participate in a Colour Run. School photos will be taken on Mon. 16/3 and Family photos will be taken on Tue. 17/3. Students are required to wear full uniform. Wed. 25/3. First P. & F. Meeting for 20202. Thu. 28/5. A continuation of "Everyday Resilience" led by Michell Mitchell. If you would like to hire Tennis Courts on weekends, email <u>STBRtennis@gmail.com</u>.

Sacramental Programme 2020-21.

Sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Eucharist. For children in Year 3 and above. An Enrolment and Information Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9/6 at 7.15pm., for a 7.30pm., start in the Church. Enq. Helen Hickey at the Parish Office on Monday, Tuesday or Friday mornings on 3261 3670

Prayer Blog.

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

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.gld.gov.au/childsafety

Project Compassion.

Week 3, Australia. Cambodia. You can read father of four, Barry's story on your Week 3 Lenten Envelope. With your help Barry, and many others like him will be able to take part of a cultural healing programme.

Envelopes for Project Compassion are available at the back of the Church. These can be placed on the collection plate or in the bucket marked Project Compassion.

Vocation Views.

Only the Lord can give true living water, fullness of life. Our body cannot survive without water; our spirit cannot survive without living water. Now is the time to renew our lives in the waters and Spirit of Baptism.

PALMS Australia.

Reach Beyond: Becoming Simply Rich ... All trades and professionals are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills o their people. They're not asking for money or gifts that contribute to degrading independence. Your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. PALMS Australia will provide you with thorough preparation and support. You will be rewarded with riches greater than you can imagine. Loo at <u>www.palms.or.au</u> and talk to Roger on 0422 472 567 or email <u>palms@palms.org.au</u>

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.weebl y.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. Eng Rosemary and Peter Bugden

RCIA.

Please pray for Tamika, Jay and Dami as they prepare to be received intro the Church this Easter. Enq. Margaret Halpin

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.

Lenten Retreat.

Sat. 21/3. From 9.30am. till 2.30pm. At Holy Spirit Church, Sparkes Rd., Bray Park. Morning tea provided. Please bring a plate to share for lunch. Led by Fr. Joby George VC from Divine Retreat Centre, Somersby-Sydney. Enq. Patrick Fernando 0470 377 415 or Thomas Matthews 0473 117 209.

Salubong –

You are Invited to a traditional Filipino Easter Sunday Dawn "Salubong" Celebration on 12 April 2020 at Sacred Heart Church 118 Brighton Rd. Sandgate. It starts with a procession around the church at 4:30am followed by the re-enactment of the meeting of the Risen Lord and His Mother, Mary believed to have happened at dawn of Easter Sunday and culminates with a Holy Mass (in English) at 5:00am to be celebrated by Rev. Fr. Saldie Resolado. There will be a choir of angels, apostles and other bible personages. Fellowship follows after the mass at the church hall. There will be Easter Egg Hunt, games for the young and the young at heart. Light breakfast will be provided but you are most welcome to bring a plate to share. Enq. Jima

Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

Weekend - relationship enrichment for married couples 12-14/6 live-in at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston, or 24-25/10 live-out at Indooroopilly. For bookings/details contact: Maria and David Murphy 3342 1456. dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au Information Video website: www.wwme.org.au https://drive.google.com/open?id=1rDOV_172EvO9 d-yp7y8KDsmMwKbKC5eJ

St. Patrick's College.

Shorncliffe. A Catholic School in the Edmund Rice tradition for boys from Year 5 to Year 12. Applications for Year 7 for 2022 now being accepted. Interviews will be held in Marcy. Register on line now at stpatricks.qld.edu.au 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: <u>www.safeguardingaob.com.au/safeguardingtraining</u> Level 2 Training. Date to be published as they come to hand. 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. Eng 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 Kissane.

@BNEArchdiocese Mobile App. Archbishop Mark's Homilies, Mass times, News, events. Eng. brisbanecatholic.org.au

Youth Groups BLITZ:-Blitz is meeting this Sun. 8/3 in the Parish



Centre from 4.30 – 6pm. All students in Grades 4 - 6 welcome. We are focusing on the forgiving love of God. Enq Emma Beach

ROCK:

Rock next meets Sun. 15/3 in the Parish Centre from 5 – 7pm. All students in Grades 7 - 12 welcome. Enq. Emma Beach

SALT:-

Young Adults Group (Ages: 18 to 30). Gathering on Sunday evenings during Lent reflecting on the theme: "be open … " Starting 1/3. 7pm., in the Parish Centre. All welcome. Eng. Jess

WAG (World Action Group) \Diamond

During Lent we will taker a break from our WAG collections for Water Wells in South Sudan and our friends in Blackall/Tambo and focus on Project Compassion.

♦ 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 <u>Cath. Social Justice Council website.</u> (<u>www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au</u>).Copies of the Statement are available on the Paper Table.

Our Parish Newsletter online http://www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com/parishn ewsletter.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 \$577. Direct Debit \$1370. Loose \$1081. Total \$3028. Budgeted Weekly Target: \$3442. Average - Week 10. \$3473. 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 <u>bridge@bne.catholic.net.au</u> Many thanks for your support.

The only funeral service owned and operated by the Catholic Church Ph: (07) 3293 0555 Web: www.holycrossfunerals.com