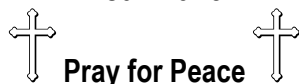


Year 2019



Pray for Peace

Parish Website:

www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com

Parish Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stjosephsbrackenridge

Parish Email:

bridge@bne.catholic.net.au

4th Sunday of Advent
22nd of December

Liturgical Calendar

Today:

Year A. Mass prepared by Group 3.

Readings:

Isaiah 7:10-14. Psalm 24. Romans 1:1-7.
Matthew 1:18-24.

Next Week 21-22/12.

Isaiah 7:10-14. Psalm 24. Romans 1:1-7.
Matthew 1:18-24.

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. Malachi 3:1-4,23-24. P.25. Luke 1:57-66.

Tue. 2 Sam.7:1-5,8-12,14,16. P.89. Luke 1:67-79.

Wed. Isaiah 52:7-10. P.98. John 1:1-18.

Thu. Acts 6:8-10.7:54-59. P.31. Matthew 10:17-22.

Fri. 1 John 1:1-4. P.97. John 20:1-8.

Sat. 1 John 1:5-2.2. P.124. Matthew 2:13-18.

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-4th Sunday of Advent Year

A

(Matthew 1:18-24)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

One of my friends asked me what I would like for Christmas. "Nothing", was my immediate response. "I just want to spend time with community and family and friends, especially those who would otherwise be alone". And that's what I'll be doing, simply "being with". Being-with others in joy or sorrow or in the humdrum of life is probably the best gift we can offer and the best gift we can receive. It is not always possible to be present in person and, thankfully, true friends know that "being-with" is not restricted to physical presence. There is a sense in which those we love are always with us and we are always with them, even when the demands of life and our work or ministry choices separate us geographically. Real friends are "with-us" even in our absence and "being-with" in spirit or in person is closely allied with "being-for". Today's gospel affirms "being-with" as God's Christmas gift to us.

The first chapter of Matthew's gospel tells us that the expected child Messiah or Christ-child is "God-with-us", Emmanuel. The gospel will conclude with the assurance of the resurrected Christ, "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matt 28:20). As we celebrate the successive liturgical seasons in the coming year, we shall have the opportunity to enter into the gospel story of God-with-us and with all of creation, and to live out the pattern of the Christ story more fully in our lives.

There is no angelic annunciation to Mary in Matthew's gospel, no embrace of an expectant mother. There is no inn or innkeeper, no shepherds or shepherds' fields. These are all features of Luke's tableau. Matthew brings different features and different characters to centre stage. Chief among Matthew's characters is Joseph who, like Joseph of old, receives God's revelation in a series of dreams. The angelic announcement in today's gospel is to Joseph: he is not to be afraid, but is to accept the extraordinary ways of God which will bring salvation for God's people. Joseph trusts the word of God's messenger: he abandons his own plans and lives by faith in God.

If we try to harmonise the different gospel accounts of the events surrounding the birth of Jesus, we may lose some of the wondrous mystery of the feast we celebrate. If, on the other hand, we attend to the awesome truth that God is with us, then we might be more attentive to how we are with one another. We may also come to acknowledge our presence or "being-with" as a precious Christmas gift. Those who distance themselves from the community of life run the risk of succumbing to fear and of losing the joy in living. Acceptance of the truth that God is with us has the potential to drive out fear and to draw us into the deepest mysteries of life.

Matthew 1:18-24 Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel commanded him; he took her as his wife.



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).

*A Happy Holy and Blessed
Christmas to all our Parish Family*



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.

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.

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 0419 354 900.

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."

Our Parish Newsletter is now in recession.

Our thanks to Sunil, Robyn, Vicki, Kathleen, Anna and Judy for so cheerfully giving up their free time on Saturday mornings to print our weekly newsletter. We will be back in print on the weekend 1-2/2/20 Rostered Judy Hall.

St. Joseph's Seniors' Christmas Party, 2019.

48 people had a very successful & enjoyable day at our 2019 Christmas Breakup Party. Our LAST function for this very successful year. It was a GREAT day & we were all very pleased to welcome Fr. Gerry, Fr. Bernie & Fr. Joe. Entertainment was provided by St. Joseph's School Choirs who were just so very professional with their singing & dancing. Congratulations to you all. We had a visit from "the Man in Red", who rewarded our "good" members with a present.. We then enjoyed a beautiful lunch. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to making it, such a "Fun Day" for us all, particularly, those very "special people", who helped us to set up on the previous night, & for everyone who really worked so hard on the day preparing & serving our banquet, decorating the tables,

washing & drying up, & the many other items that need to be completed, to make the day so very successful. Thank you to everyone who helped with the packing up & cleaning the Parish Centre in time for After School Care. There are so many of you, who make our job so very much easier... Thank You most sincerely.

Date Claimer

Our Planning Day will be Tuesday, 4/2/20 after the 9am. Mass. We wish everyone, a very Safe & Holy Christmas & Every Best Wish for 2020.

Ron & Therese Kissane

Children's Liturgy.

Now in recession until mid. February when once again our Years Prep – Three will be invited to join us in the Parish Centre during the Liturgy of the Word at the 9am. Mass. Enq. Barbara

Kindy Liturgy.

Now in recession until 2020. 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

A big thank you to our volunteer Catechists.

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.

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".

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 until Christmas Eve and includes music, food and children's activities from 6.30pm., followed by

the 12-minute show running continuously from 7pm.

Archdiocesan/Secular Calendar.

22-29/12. 4th Sunday of Advent. Christmas Eve, Christmas Day. Boxing Day. The Holy Family. The Holy Innocents, Martyrs Saints John of Kanty. Stephen. John.

Liturgy Roster.

Liturgy Preparation.

Please check your Roster as the newsletter is now in recess until 1-2/20. Enq. Margaret Halpin or at the Parish Office. 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.

Please check your Roster as the newsletter is now in recess until 1-2/2/20.

6pm.

7.30am.

9am.

Eucharistic Ministers.

Please check your roster. Newsletter is in recess until 1-2/2/20.

6pm.

7.30am.

9am.

Music Ministry.

6pm.

7.30am.

9am.

Servers.

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

Counters Roster.

Please check rosters. Newsletter in recess until 1-2/2/20.

Newsletter Photocopying.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers. Sunil. Robyn. Vicki. Kathleen. Anna & Judy.

Vocation Views.

Vocations from God are not always clear. An angel appear to him saying: "Take Mary as your wife, and fear not". However, God still speaks – "Do not be afraid".

St. Vincent de Paul.

Christmas Cards \$4 for a pack of 8. Columban Calendars \$10. 'Keep Christ in Christmas' Stickers per \$1 per sheet.

Nouwen Network.

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

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.

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: AQB@stoline.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.

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.

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

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. Carols by Candlelight: Sat. 21/11. 7pm. Outdoors, bring seating and Aerogard. Sing along with Renata and the Paradise City Band. All very welcome. 146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West.

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 – Chermside 07 3624 2400

Living Well - Strathpine 07 3028 4648

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.

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.

Lawn Maintenance.

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

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.

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 us info@magiholidays.com.au

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 Sonia Kovak 3435 7210 or email Sonia.kovac2@svha.org.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:
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 Kissane

@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 \$351.95 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	\$569.
Direct Debit	\$1351.
Loose	\$910.
Total	\$2831.

Budgeted Weekly Target: \$3404.

Average – Week 50. \$3364.

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.



The only funeral service owned and operated by the Catholic Church

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

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