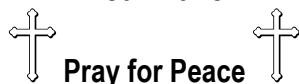


Year 2018



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
9th of December

Liturgical Calendar

Today:

Year C. Mass prepared by Group 3.

Readings:

Baruch 5:1-9. Psalm 125. Philippians 1:3-6,8-11. Luke 3:1-6.

Next Week 15-16/12.

Zephaniah 3:14-18. Isa.12:2-6. Philippians 4:4-7. Luke 3:10-18.

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. Isaiah 35:1-10. P.84. Luke 5:17-26.

Tue. Isaiah 40:1-11.P.102. Matthew 18:28-30.

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

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

Fri. Isaiah 48:17-19. P.1. Matthew 11:16-19.

Sat. Sirach 48:1-4,9-11. P.72. 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 C (Luke 3:1-6)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Pope Francis has called us to look into our hearts, to let go of all that is harsh or cruel and to bring the compassion and mercy of God to our troubled planetary home. At the International Conference marking the third anniversary of *Laudato Si'* (July 2018), he thanked the participants for coming together to hear "with their hearts the increasingly desperate cries of the earth and its poor." The Conference title, "Saving our Common Home and the Future of Life on Earth" underscores the urgency of the call. Our courageous pope is giving extraordinary leadership to the global community.

Like Luke, author of the third gospel, Pope Francis recognises that this message is for the whole world and not simply for the Church community. Luke situates his gospel drama on a national and international stage and in relation to global events. He wants to insist that religion is no private affair and that the story of the movement around Jesus of Nazareth is no ordinary, everyday story. It is rather a story with momentous political and religious significance. Luke is strong on dramatic impact and less concerned about the facts. He situates events in the "pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas", implying that there were two high priests at the same time. In fact, Caiaphas succeeded his father-in-law Annas as high priest, even if the influence of the latter persisted into Caiaphas' pontificate.

Luke presents John the son of Zechariah as a prophet in the long line of prophets that culminates in the appearance of Jesus of Nazareth on the global stage. Jesus is the one who truly brings the salvation of our God. It is worth noting that prophecy in Luke is not reserved to the male characters. With the shift from private to public space in Luke 3, however, women prophets who featured prominently in the earlier chapters (Elizabeth, Mary, and Anna) now disappear from the narrative.

Luke 3:1-6 contains some of Luke's favourite themes: prophecy and its fulfilment; the word of God; reversal of expectations; conversion or repentance; proclaiming the good news; forgiveness of sins; salvation. As in Israel's past, the wilderness or desert is the locus of God's revelation. The prophet John calls on the people of the region around the Jordan River to turn their hearts and their lives around, to accept "a baptism

of *metanoia* or conversion for the forgiveness of sins'.

We might listen to the Isaiah citation that follows ("Prepare the way...") against the backdrop of the first reading from the prophet Baruch. God's way involves putting on the "cloak of integrity" or "robe of righteousness" and allowing God to provide an escort of mercy/works of mercy (*eleēmosunē*) and integrity/right relationship (*dikaioSunē*). If we take seriously the call to live the gospel, we shall surely search for ways to heal the broken relationships within our ailing planet.



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).



This is our final newsletter for the year. We will be back on the weekend of 19-20/1/2019. A very big THANK YOU to Sunil, Robyn, Vicki, Kathleen, Anna and Judy for sharing their time on Saturdays to print the newsletters for us so faithfully. And a big thank you to all those who assist at our very many Ministries. Each one of us contributes to the rich and diverse tapestry that makes us the parish that we are, from our youngest to our oldest parishioner. A happy holy and safe Christmas to all. Ed.

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.

Cancellation of weekday Masses for 10-14/12. Monday 10/12 – Friday 14/12. No weekday Masses this week owing to Building Renovations.

Message of Pope Francis for December 2018.

If you want to share your faith through the word,
 you have to listen much and carefully.
 Let us imitate the style of Jesus, who adapted himself to the people He had in front of Him
 so as to bring God's love to them.
 Let us pray that people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find,
 in their dialogue with culture,
 a language suited to the conditions of the present time,
 in their dialogue with people's hearts,
 and above all, by listening much.

Saviour.

These little books of Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas are available on the paper table. A donation of \$3 is welcome.

St. Vincent De Paul –

Columban Calendars for sale at \$10 each. Christmas Cards are \$4 for a pack of 8. 'Keep Christ in Christmas' stickers \$1 per sheet now available at the Paper Table. Please make your selection and use the Honour Box supplied.

Children's Liturgy.

This will recommence mid February next year for Prep to Year 3 students. Held in the Parish

Centre during the Liturgy of the Word at the 9am. Mass. Enq. Barbara

Kindy Liturgy.

In recess until February next year. Sessions will be announced at the commencement of the 9am. Mass. Our 3, 4 & 5 year olds are invited to join us in the Parish Centre during the Liturgy of the Word. Enq. Margaret

Join us as we celebrate -

the birth of Jesus. Please note the news Mass times for 2018!

RECONCILIATION: Individual Rite. Sat. 22/12. 4.30 – 5.45pm.

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS. 6pm. Carols from 5.40pm. (In the Father Bernie Costigan Centre).

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS. 9pm. Carols from 8.40pm.

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS. 9am. Carols from 8.40am.

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, please contact 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.

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."

Volunteers and Blue Cards.

Parish Volunteer Forms as well as Archdiocesan 'Code of Ethical Behaviour' forms are available for volunteers to sign. Please collect these forms from Bronwyn at the Office, Terry or Margaret.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has implemented standards of conduct for voluntary church workers to maintain a safe and healthy ministry environment. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct background referencing for all persons who intend to engage in voluntary ministry having direct and regular involvement with children, young people and vulnerable adults. This referencing is kept up to date at all times.

Liturgy Roster.

Liturgy Preparation.

For weekend 22-23/12. Group 5. Enq. Sue Hutchinson 3261 2789. **Attention Groups 6, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 6. Please check rosters.** 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, 15-16/12. Group 4. **Attention Groups 5, 6, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Please check rosters.**

Eucharistic Ministers.

For next weekend. Group 4. **Attention Groups 5, 6, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Please check rosters.**

Music Ministry.

For next weekend. Group 4. 6pm. P Halpin. 7.30am. P. Olley. J. McCoy. 9am. H. & J. Hickey. S. & S. Twidale. **Attention Groups 5, 6, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Please check rosters, Servers.**

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

Counters Roster.

16/12. Group 4. 23/12. Group 5. **Attention Groups 6, 1, 2, 3 & 4.**

Newsletter Photocopying.

Rostered 19/1/2019. Judy Hall.

Archdiocesan/Secular Calendar.

9-16/12. 2nd & 3rd Sundays of Advent. Our Lady of Fatima Devotion at Woodridge. Our Lady of Guadalupe. Saints Damascus 1. Lucy. John of the Cross.

Prayer Blog.

See Parish Blog updates on our website and on the board near the Sacristy. Parishioners may write a short piece on how they pray and share reflections.

Parish Pastoral Council.

The Parish Pastoral Council fully endorsed the Care and Concern Group's request for the Parish to live out Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudato Si' in all our Parish activities to move towards the adoption of - sustainable practices that will minimize our climate change footprint. 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".

Vocation Views.

Today, God's Voice rings out "Go prepare the way for the Lord". Is this call for you?

Plenary Council 2020.

What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?

You are welcome to reflect on and submit your response online at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au Let us pray for the success of this Council.

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.
 Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.
 O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council. Give us the grace to see

your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road. Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth. Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying. Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen. Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. St. Mary MacKillop, pray for us.

The annual Christmas Lights festival –

-at St. Gerard Majella, Chermerside West is now on and will continue every night till 23/12. Huge lights display, Gift Shop, Coffee Shop, Barbecue, Drinks, ice Creams and Op Shop all operating from 6 till 10pm., nightly. Free entertainment every night. The programme for our free concerts can be found on our website: www.olaparishchermerside.org.au.

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. John Fisher College.

Limited vacancies available. Enrol now at www.stjohnfishercollege.qld.edu.au

RCIA. Enq. Margaret Halpin

Greetings from Holy Spirit Seminary.

Every Grace and Blessing for Christmas. Thank you for hosting or students once again on their Sunday placements. They truly appreciate it.

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 – Chermerside 07 3624 2400

Living Well - Strathpine 07 3028 4648

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.

Blackall Fete Update.

We have received a Message of Thanks from St. Joseph's Primary School, Blackall and the wider Blackall community for everything that has been done by the people of St. Joseph's and St. Anthony's Parish. The link below is to a video which conveys that message of thanks. Please take the time to view the

video. If you need any help with this please phone Sharyn Rogers

<https://youtu.be/6M9wvvn4yXk>

John & Sharyn Rogers, Greg & Sharyn McLagan, Maurice and Glenda Murdoch.

This is a touching tribute, and really pushes home the difference each one of us can make. Please take the time to watch it. Ed.

St. Joseph's School.

School will recommence on Wed. 30/1/19.

Our Working Bee prior to the start of the school year will be on Sat. 19/1/19 from 8 to 11am. There is always lots to do to ready our school for the New Year. Please note the date and come along. Your help will be much appreciated. Uniform Shop: Mon. 21/1/19. 8 – 11am. Tue. 22/1. 8 – 11am. Wed. 23/1. 8 – 11am. Thu. 24/1. 8 – 11am. Fri. 25/1. 8 – 11am. Tue. 29/1. 8 – 11am. Wed. 30/1. 8 – 11am. Thu. 1/2. 7.45 – 10.15am. Asbestos

Removal. Asbestos is being removed from the Parish Centre and the school. The work in the Parish Centre will be completed in the first week of the school holidays. The school buildings affected include B Block (this is the two-storey classroom block) and C Block (this is the Year 6 classroom block, which also houses the tuckshop). Asbestos removal will begin on Mon.10/12 and continue until Fri. 21/12. The reinstallation of new walls etc. will occur in the January period. During the asbestos removal period exclusion zones will be in place. For the safety of all, the following will occur. The School and Parish offices will close on the last school day prior to holidays. Fri. 7/12 The School office will reopen on Mon. 21/1/19. The uniform shop will open in January (times to be advised shortly). The school centre area will be completely closed off and as such, there is no access through the school during this period. Those attending Mass can park in the top carpark. The lower carpark will be open but access to the church will need to be via the netball courts and not through the central walkway. Vacation Care will be available as per usual however we will only be using our Senior OSHC facility which opens onto the school oval. All access to this area must only be via the Phillips Street car park. Children must not be dropped off or picked up from the top carpark. Children who access Vacation Care will only be allowed access to areas well outside the exclusion zone. This includes using the Prep toilets.

Care for Creation Group.

<http://stjosephsbrackenridgecareforcreation.weebly.com> is our Care for Creation website and Facebook page. It has lots of useful resources that may be of interest. We value your feedback on any improvements we can make. With Pope Francis we pray: "That we may take good care of creation – a gift freely

given – cultivating and protecting it for future generations. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen". 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

Simbang Gabi 2018.

At St. Joseph's Church, Bracken Ridge. Sun. 16/12. 5:30pm. Carols, and 6pm. Holy Mass.

Mass is in English, everyone is welcome.

Fellowship after the Mass. Please bring a plate to share. Simbang Gabi is a Filipino tradition of joyful waiting for the birth of Jesus.

It's a 9 day pre-Christmas celebration with carols, Holy Mass and fun-filled fellowship. For complete Simbang Gabi schedule refer to Church notice board. Enq. Lorraine Esparcia or Armando

Lawn Maintenance.

Maintaining lawns is a hard work, and not everyone can spare all that time and energy at all stages of their life, at D&A we mow lawns and we aim to make it simple for you. Our motto is, best services for best prices. Contact us now: Anas Raed: 0413 271

432. David Nabeel: 0490 388 459. Email: da.mowingservices@gmail.com

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

Position Vacant – Parish Secretary.

Applications are open for a position at the Banyo Nundah Parish. A person with excellent administration and secretarial skills is required for a full time position of Parish Secretary for 38 hours a week, Monday to Friday. Enq., visit the Archdiocese of Brisbane website: <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/> and to careers. The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for employees and volunteers to maintain a safe and healthy environment. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults.

Called to Serve.

Never underestimate your potential! You may not be a trained theologian or church leader or mystic. But the Holy Spirit lives in you and can work powerfully in you! Whether you're a doctor, businessperson, teacher, stay-at-home mum, or waiter, the sky's the limit when God has the freedom to do his work through you. "Lord Jesus, do your work through me. Send me into the harvest. I don't want to wait for someone else to proclaim your word. Amen."

2nd of December. First Sunday of Advent.

Our Parish Family—Sister Parish with Blackall-Tambo Parish in the Diocese of Rockhampton & supporting the 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 Training.

Watch this spot for forthcoming dates.

Enq. Terry Tolhurst

SVDP

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

St Joseph's Craft Group

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

Unless otherwise notified: No Gatherings in December 18 and January 19.
Enq Jan or Jan

Our Parish Newsletter online

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

Friday Night Prayer Vigils

Quiet prayer and reflection in the Church 7-8pm., each Friday night
All welcome

@BNEArchdiocese Mobile App.

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

Youth Groups

BLITZ:-

BLITZ is having its last meeting form the year this Sun. 2/12 in the Parish Centre from 4.30 – 6.30pm. All students between Grades 3 – 5 are welcome. We are having a Movie night so bring a pillow to watch in comfort. It's a family movie so siblings are welcome. Gold coin donation.
Enq Emma Beach

ROCK:

ROCK is next meeting on 3/2/19 in the Parish Centre from 5 – 7pm. All students between Grades 7 - 12 are welcome. Enq Emma Beach

SALT:-

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

WAG (World Action Group)

Last weekend we collected \$233.80 for the support of Blackall/Tambo Parish.

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

As always, we want to say a very big THANK YOU to all our very generous parishioners for continuing to support our Parish projects.

Enq. Terry and Rita Tolhurst

Our Library.

Just make your choice and write your name and the title of the book you are borrowing in the booklet provided. Please check out the wide variety available.

Men's Prayer Group

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

Ladies' Prayer Group

We have finished for the year now and will resume on Wednesday 6th February. Each Wednesday until then, we will meet for coffee at the Bracken Ridge Tavern at 9.30am. 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.

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: 67. Current number of Direct Debit Givers: 94. Thank you for your giving from last weekend:-

| | |
|--------------|----------------|
| Envelopes | \$539. |
| Direct Debit | \$1478. |
| Loose | \$1001. |
| Total | \$3017. |

Budgeted Weekly Target: \$3462.

Average – Week 48. \$3323.

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.*

