

Year 2017



Pray for Peace

Parish Website:

www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com

Parish Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stjosephsbrackenridge

Parish Email:

bridge@bne.catholic.net.au

**First Sunday of Advent
3rd of December**

Liturgical Calendar

Today:

Year B. Mass prepared by Group 4.

Readings:

Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8. Psalm 79. 1 Corinthians 1:3-9. Mark 13:5-11.

Next Week 9-10/12.

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11. Psalm 84. 2 Peter 3:8-14. Mark 1:1-8.

Mass Times:

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

Brighton – Sat. 6pm. 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 2:1-5. P.121. Matthew 8:5-11.

Tue. Isaiah 11:1-10. P.71. Luke 10:21-24.

Wed. Isaiah 25:6-10. P. 22. Matthew 15:29-37.

Thu. Isaiah 26:1-6. P.117. Matthew 7:21,24-27.

Fri. Genesis 3:8-15,20. P. 97. Luke 1:26-38.

Sat. Isa.30:19-21,23-26. P.146.Matt.9:35-10:1,6-8.

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: 1st Sunday of Advent
Year B - (Mark 13:33-37)**

Advent is about recognising our own tendency to be less than vigilant and even to turn away when our presence is most needed. It is about allowing the grace of God to take hold in our hearts, keeping us watchful for the sake of those on the edge and for the sake of a regenerated Earth, writes Mercy Sister Veronica Lawson.

“Eyes wide open” is the proper stance for gospel people. The little parable that is the gospel reading for this first Sunday of the new liturgical year forms the conclusion to Mark’s so-called apocalyptic discourse. Apocalyptic literature emerged within Judaism in the context of crisis or persecution. It was intended to provide hope in the midst of disaster: God’s coming can reverse the sufferings of the present. The Markan discourse is delivered as a farewell teaching to the inner circle of Jesus’ disciples. The concluding verse indicates that it is intended for a wider audience, however: “what I say to you, I say to all....” Like Peter, James, and John, Christian disciples through the ages are invited to stay awake, to be on the lookout, to be alert.

This cycle of the liturgical year begins and ends with Mark 13 and a focus on the end of the present order of things. It may seem strange to begin the year with such a reflection. Is Advent not a time of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Christ child into the world? Mark has no account of the birth of Jesus. His gospel begins with the immediate preparation for the adult ministry of Jesus. From the very outset, his interest is in the coming of God’s reign of justice and compassion. That is, in fact, what Advent is about: living in hopeful expectation that God’s dream for a transformed world might be realised.

The parable of the watchful gatekeeper forms the conclusion to a farewell discourse that the Markan Jesus addresses to his disciples. The disciples are told to be alert and watchful through the four watches of the Roman night: in the evening, at midnight, at cockcrow, and at dawn. The parable thus foreshadows aspects of Jesus’ suffering that was to be compounded by the abandonment of his closest friends. Peter, James, and John will fall asleep in Gethsemane. The disciples will all disperse and Peter will deny him. We find our own experience mirrored in that of the disciples. It is easy to lose hope in the face of overwhelming violence and even to lose focus.

Advent is about recognising our own tendency to be less than vigilant and even to turn away when our

presence is most needed. It is about allowing the grace of God to take hold in our hearts, keeping us watchful for the sake of those on the edge and for the sake of a regenerated Earth. Most of us would agree that our Earth communities are in crisis. We need to be alert to causes as well as to consequences so that the cycles of violence might eventually be broken. Our gospel asks no less of us.

Gospel Reflections by Sr Veronica Lawson from the website: www.catholicreligiousaustralia.org.au

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

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

St Vincent de Paul: Jeff Walsh or Earl Grady

Parish Care Group: Marcia Caruso

Youth Leader: Emma Beach

Blitz: Kelcey & Josh de Gee .

Hospitality Group: June and Keith De Broughe,

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

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

Please leave the area facing the Parish Centre free for 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. Pray@8. Pray@8 cards are available at the doors of the Church. Please take one for yourself and one to give away. Lord, the plight of Iraq and Syria is deep and the suffering of Christians is severe and frightening. Peace is the foundation of life. "Loving God. Let your gentle presence settle over our troubled lands. Teach us to walk in the way of your peace. Amen."

Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections.

This little book 'Chosen' is available on the paper table. A Donation of \$3 would be welcome.

Christmas Preparations.

Once again our local SVDP offers Columban Calendars at \$10 each. Christmas Cards \$4 for a pack of eight, and 'Keep Christ in Christmas' stickers for \$1 per sheet. These are all at the same price as last year.

Please look at the photos on poster –

-to see if you recognise any of the children in the photocopies photos. As far as we can tell, (School History Group), these must be some of the very first photos taken at St. Anthony's in 1927. If any family member would like to claim a photo, please contact Barbara Masterman.

Children's Liturgy.

2017 Final session for 2017 today during the Liturgy of the Word. All Prep to Year 3 students are invited to join us in the Parish Centre at the 9am. Mass. Enq. Barbara.

Kindy Liturgy.

Today, during the Liturgy of the Word. Our 3, 4 & 5 year old littlies are invited to join us in the Parish Centre at the 9am. Mass. Enq. 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.

Volunteers and Blue Cards.

Parish Volunteer Form and an (Archdiocesan) 'Code of Ethical Behaviour' form for volunteers to sign. Please collect the forms from Bronwyn or Margaret.

Baptism.

We welcome to the waters of Baptism and to our Faith Community:-

Catholic Leader. A good read for just \$2.

We Pray Healing for -

We pray for 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 prayers in the newsletter, please contact Barbara

Condolence.

Our prayers and thoughts are with those who are mourning the recent loss of loved ones.

Recently Deceased:

Memorial:

All our deceased family members and friends.



'Silence and Space before God' Friday Night Prayer Vigil. A weekly sacred time to enjoy quiet prayer and reflection. 7pm - 8pm each Friday night until late 2020. At St Joseph's Church 30 Eldorado Street Bracken Ridge. Come along any Friday night for some time before God.

Liturgy Roster.

Liturgy Preparation.

For weekend 16-17/12. Group 6. Enq. Margaret Halpin. 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 9-10/12. Group 5. 6pm. A. Isaak. A. Jolly. J. Ivett. 7.30am. F. Burke. S. Donatini. K. Hutton. 9am. S. Hutchinson. M. de Gee. N. Mathew.

Eucharistic Ministers.

For next weekend. Group 5. 6pm. R. Nave. T. Ringer. B. Craigie. ? ? 7.30am. R. del Rosario. R. & A. Soriano. C. & A. Kennedy. 9am. B. & V. Stephensen. D. de Gee. M. Hutchinson. T. Clarke.

Music Ministry.

For next weekend. Group 5. 6pm. L. & L. Esparcia. 7.30am. S. Angus-McInnes. M. Lewry. J. McCoy. 9am. P. Halpin.

Servers.

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

Counters Roster.

Group 5. 10/12. Brian, Jan & Ann. Group 6. 17/12. Mike, Bryan & Sandra.

Newsletter Photocopying.

9/12. Sunil Edward. Robyn Masterman.

Archdiocesan and Secular Calendar 3-10/12.

1st & 2nd Sundays of Advent. Cathedral Advent Fair. Anniversary of the Dedication of St. Stephen's Cathedral. The Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary. Saints John Damascene. Nicholas. Ambrose. Juan Diego Cuahtlatotzin.

Parish Newsletter online.

<http://www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com/parish-newsletter.html>

Our Library.

Just make your choice and write your name and the title of the book you are borrowing in the booklet provided.

St. Vincent De Paul.

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

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

Wheels for Sara Appeal.

If you would like to make a donation, please place the money in an envelope clearly marked "Sara" so that we can direct the monies accordingly. Enquiries to the Parish Office 3261 3670.

Thank you.

Thank you to Emma for the wonderful work she has done with our Youth in Rock. The behaviour of these young people at their Bonfire afternoon/evening was excellent. Parents, you should be proud of them, to Emma and your helpers, your efforts showed through in the fun had by all, as well as the respect shown to one another.

RCIA. Enquiries: Margaret

SALT - Young Adults Group.

Enq. Jess Hickey

Rock (Youth Group).

Next meeting 4/2/18. In the Parish Centre from 5 – 7pm. All students between Years 6 to 12 are welcome. Please contact Emma for any details

Blitz.

Next meeting on Sun. 28/1/18. All students from Years 4 to 6 are welcome to join us in the Parish Centre, 4.30 – 6pm. Enq. Emma Beach Gold coin donation.

A women's spirituality discussion group is meeting this Monday the 4th December in the Church Hall from 7 to 8pm, followed by coffee. Please contact Emma Beach for details

Parish Pastoral Council.

As the year ends we say a final farewell to Matt Ritchie – chairperson of the Parish Pastoral Council. Matt has been a steady hand and a good shepherd to the Council in our deliberations concerning the pastoral care needs of our Parish. Since the time Jesus gathered the Apostles around him to further sow the seeds of faith, localized pastoral works continue to be of critical importance to the Church's ongoing existence throughout the world. Faith in action means we will continue to have future generations taking up the Good News message and applying their hands at doing good social and economic works at a local level. All societies need this cohesive glue to survive and prosper - physically and spiritually. Let us congratulate Sam Turner as he takes up the reins of chairperson. 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.

It's Advent; almost Christmas! A Season of dreams comes true. Be on guard. The Lord may call you to follow Him.

Prayer Blog - 'Our Parish Year of Prayer 2017'.

See Parish Blog updates on our website and on the board near the Sacristy. Parishioners, if they wish, may write a short piece on how they pray and share reflections online on our parish blog. A hard copy will be placed on the noticeboard in the Church.

Women's Prayer Group.

Held every Wednesday, in the Church from 9.30 - 10.30am., followed by a cuppa. All welcome. Enquiries: Margaret

Men's Prayer Group.

Held every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm. All gentlemen of the parish invited and welcome. Enq. Phillip

Royal Commission Information.

Stay connected and updated by signing up to the latest news, blog posts and media releases at <http://www.tjhcouncil.org.au/> Specialist Support : Director of Professional Standards Office (Qld) - 1800 337 928 or 07 3229 3711. Adults Surviving Child Abuse -1300 657 380. Victims Counselling Support Services - 1300 139 703. Knowmore – 1800 605 762 www.knowmore.com.au Netta Sheridan.

Catholic Social Justice Council website.

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

@BNEArchdiocese Mobile App available.

Archbishop Mark's Homilies, Mass Times, news, events, Enq. brisbanecatholic.org.au

WAG Update.

This weekend we are having a special annual collection for PETER'S PENCE. What is Peter's Pence you may well ask? Following is a direct quote from Pope Benedict: "Peter's Pence" is the most characteristic expression of the participation of all the faithful in the Bishop of Rome's charitable initiatives in favour of the universal Church. The gesture has not only a practical value, but also a strong symbolic one, as a sign of communion with the Pope and attention to the needs of one's brothers; and therefore your

service possesses a refined ecclesial character". (Address to the Members of the St Peter Circle, 25 February 2006). BLACKALL/TAMBO. Three weeks prior to the Blackall Fete our Team was concerned about the small amount of stock we had for the stall. But after Fr. Gerry spoke about it at Mass we were overwhelmed with donations. Kerry Lewry surprised us with his arrival in Blackall and we greatly appreciated his assistance before, during and after the Fete. Fete Convenor Tony Hauff was very pleased with the outcome of the St. Patrick's Church Fete, both socially and financially. Combined total raised by our Novelty Stall, Ring-A-Coke and Christmas Hamper Raffle was approx. \$2000. Without the help of our generous parishioners and friends, this great result would not have been possible. The people of Blackall send their heartfelt "Thanks" as do John & Sharyn Rogers, Greg & Sharyn McLagan and Maurice & Glenda Murdoch. Effective 6th January, Blackall's Priest Fr. Bill Senn will become Parish Priest of Longreach. His replacement will be Fr. Jayanthi Maddala. We wish Fr Bill well and look forward to working with Fr Jayanthi.
Enq. Terry & Rita Tolhurst

A Big Thank you –

-to John and Sharyn Rogers, Greg and Sharyn McLagan, and Maurice and Glenda Murdoch for their dedication, enthusiasm and for being such wonderful ambassadors for our equally wonderful Parish.

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 interest you. 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

Fire & Spirit Today: 3/12.

Held on the first Sunday of each month from 3.30 -5pm. worship and sharing of the Word in our Parish Church. Come and join us for our monthly afternoon of praise, worship and sharing of the Word in our Parish Church. All ages welcome. Enq. Gabrielle

Nouwen Network.

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

Two-Minute Homilies.

Priests from around the Archdiocese prepare "Two Minute Homilies": <http://brisbanecatholic.org.au/multimedia/two-minute-homilies/>

St. Joseph's School.

Next year school will commence on Tue. 23/1/18. Australia Day Holiday on Fri. 26/1/18.
The Uniform Shop will be open as follows: 15/1. 16/1. 17/1 & 18/1/18. 9 – 11am. And 22/1. 23/1. 24/1 & 25/1/18. 8 - 10.30am.

Pope Francis –

At TED Talks. <http://bit.ly/FrancisTEDTalks>

Social bike riding group.

The first Saturday of the month and leaving from Bracken Ridge Tavern promptly at 7am. Enq. Maureen

Giving for weekend 25-26/11.

Our Parish takes up one collection for the support of our priest, parish, and contribution to the Archdiocese. It is taken up at offertory. Current Envelope Givers: 72. Direct Debit Givers 93. Envelopes \$707. Direct Debit \$1657. Loose \$1084. Total \$3448. Budgeted Weekly Target \$3596. Average: Week 48. \$3374.

An Invitation.

If you wish to join the Giving Programme and support our/my Parish with a regular financial Gift please place a note with your name, address, and phone number on either r Collection plate or email our Parish Office at bridge@bne.catholic.net.au and we will contact you. Many thanks for your support.

St. Joseph's Craft Group.

Our Craft Group meets on the 3rd Monday of every month, after the 9am. Mass, from 9:30 - 11:30am., in the Parish Centre excluding School Holidays. Next Meeting Mon. 20/11. Enq. Jan or Jan.

It's Hamper Time

The families of people in prison have been amazed by 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 Christmas supermarket bags as they have to be carried on public transport; so, nothing over 1 litre or 1 kg please. No chocolate because of the heat. Suggest non-perishable foods – eg cans of fish, tomatoes, fruit; biscuits sweet and savoury; soft drink in cans; snack foods; lollies; Christmas cakes and puddings; cartons of custard; also small family games, Christmas decorations, serviettes, plates and bonbons. Please bring in a NEW reusable Christmas shopping bag and put them at the back of the church before Sun. 3/12 when we will pack from 2-4pm. Helpers needed! Enq. Sue

Prisoners' Transport Group Inc. -

-requires a Volunteer Management Committee Member. Enq. Rev Deacon Russ Nelson 0427 743 534 or nelhouse@bigpond.net.au

"Simbang Gabi" –

9 day Pre-Christmas Night Mass. At St. Joseph's & St. Anthony's Church, Bracken Ridge. Thu. 21/12. 7pm. Carols Holy Mass (English) at 7.30pm. Fellowship after Mass. Please bring a plate to share. Enq. Bing or Amando. All invited and welcomed to the special Catholic Australian-Filipino Community of Brisbane North Ceremony.

Sacramental Programme.

Enq. Helen Hickey. Enq.

Social Parish Tennis Group –

Plays Wednesday nights at the Deagon Tennis Courts. Enq. Maureen

menALIVE in the City.

Enq. 3367 1402 or mail@menalive.org.au

St. Rita's Catholic Parish –

-Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Fr. Joseph Vattaparambil CMI. Covering Petra. Bethlehem. Jericho. Sea of Galilee and Jerusalem. 8-21/4/18. Limited seats. Enq. 3207 9177. Enq. 3207 9177 or email: victoriapoint@nbe.catholic.net.au

The Full Spiritual Exercises In Daily Life.

Faber Centre of Ignatian Spirituality invites you to experience the traditional Full Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola, during 2018. Faber offers a personal approach to the Exercises, with weekly face-to-face conversations with an experienced and accredited Ignatian Spiritual Director who will adapt the Exercises to your needs over a period of 30 or more weeks. Enq. Sharyn at the Faber Centre www.faberspirituality.org.au | fabercis@bigpond.com or 3368 2450 by 2/2/18.

Holy Spirit Care Services.

Viridian Retirement Living and Aged Care Community. Boondall. Two Apartments available. For Inspection call Sharon on 30545 4635.

Requests are-

- an Important source of funds for parishes. Remember your parish in your Will.

Volunteer Hospital Pastoral Carers.

Expressions of interest for training as a volunteer hospital pastoral carer are being sought for training in 2018. Centacare Pastoral Ministries offers scholarships for training in return for a one morning per week commitment for a minimum two year period. Pastoral care teams in hospitals are highly valued by patients, staff and management. If you would like to know more, contact judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au (Ph: 3324 3193). Expressions of Interest close 15 January 2018.

Position Vacant – Parish Youth Ministry Worker.

For a position at the Mother of Mercy Parish, Hendra/Northgate/Hamilton. Good pastoral and liturgical knowledge is required for a part-time position, 15 hours a week to work across a variety of weekdays, weekends and evenings. Applications close 15/1/18. 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.*

Pilgrimage to India.

"One Heart and One Soul" led by Marie Fonseca from February 19 – March 10/18. A four night meditation/yoga retreat with daily Mass led by Fr. Joe Pereira (Mumbai), in Goa. The pilgrimage also includes attending a Mass at St. Teresa of Kolkata's Tomb and visits to some of her homes. Enq. Marie Fonseca: 02 9344 0523 or 0418 265117.

Memorandum.

Members of our parish community who have lost a loved one in recent months, may choose to have a small wooden cross placed in the Blessed Sacramental Chapel for a period of time, (perhaps 12 months).. The Chapel can be accessed at any time, and families may find this a place of comfort during those early days of grieving.. Crosses are available on request. Enq. Barbara Masterman 321 9651. The crosses have brought much comfort to our families over the past few years. Unfortunately, the available wall space in the chapel is limited and only a few spare places remain. If your family members have been remembered there for an extended time and you feel ready, we respectfully request that you take your loved one's cross or crosses now and find a prayerful restful area in your home, where you can continue to spend time with them.

The Catholic Leader. Always an interesting read.