

Year 2017



Pray for Peace

Parish Website:

www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com

Parish Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stjosephsbrackenridge

Parish Email:

bridge@bne.catholic.net.au

Third Sunday of Advent
24th of December

Liturgical Calendar

Today:

Year B. Mass prepared by Group 1.

Readings:

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11. Psalm. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24. John 1:6-8,19-28.

Next Week 30-31/12.

Genesis 15:1-6.21:1-3. Psalm 104. Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19. Luke 2:22-40.

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 52:7-10. P.97. John 1:1-18.

Tue. Acts 6:8-10.7:54-59. P.30. Matthew 10:17-22.

Wed. John 1:1-4. P.96. John 20:2-8.

Thu. John 1:5-2:2. P.123. Matthew 2:13-18.

Fri. 1 John 2:3-11. P.95. Luke 2:22-35.

Sat. Genesis 15:1-6.21:1-3. P.104. Luke 2:22-40.

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 Readings for
Christmas Year B - (Luke 2:1-20; John 1:1-18)*

As we celebrate with family and friends this Christmas, we might take a moment to ponder the mystery of the Word made flesh who "tents" among us, and give thanks for all we have received, writes Mercy Sister Veronica Lawson.

The readings for the Christmas liturgies vary from celebration to celebration. The gospel for Midnight Mass (Lk 2:1-14) comes from the great story-teller Luke, as does the gospel for the early morning Mass (Lk 2:15-20). Luke tells us that Jesus was born into the world of the Roman Empire during the reign of Caesar Augustus. In his lifetime, Augustus was acclaimed by the people as saviour of the world, son of God, and bringer of peace. Luke's communities at the end of the first century would have known the achievements and reputation of Caesar Augustus. These early Christians would have recognised in Luke's story of the birth of Jesus a deliberate attempt to proclaim Jesus, rather than Caesar Augustus, as the face of God, as saviour of the world and as bringer of the good news of peace.

Luke is a master storyteller. He weaves, from Israel's sacred history and from what he knows about Jesus' origins, a wonderful tapestry of life and hope for the world, a tapestry that unites the heavenly, the human, and the animal world in one great act of praise. The violence that brought "peace" to the Roman Empire has no place in this scene. The peace of Christ is the deep peace of non-violence and reconciliation. It is the peace that satisfies the longing of the human heart and right relationship in the whole Earth community.

The gospel for Christmas morning Mass comes from the prologue to the Gospel of John. It presents Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, as the locus of life, as the light that is coming into the world, as the one through whom truth is revealed and the one who makes God known to us. The opening words of the gospel, "in the beginning" evoke the opening of the biblical story found in Genesis. The Word that becomes flesh was "with God" even before the spirit of God swept over the chaos and brought all else into being. John's prologue foreshadows the suffering and rejection that Jesus will experience at the hands of "his own". To those who receive him, however, to those who believe in his name, he gives power to become "children of God". John weaves a rich tapestry of wonderful images that will yield their meaning little by little as the gospel story unfolds. As we celebrate with family and friends this

Christmas, we might take a moment to ponder the mystery of the Word made flesh who "tents" among us, and give thanks for all we have received.

- Sr Veronica Lawson RSM

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 Brouge,

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

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

A Very Happy, Holy and Peaceful Christmas –

-to all our Parish Family. Our Parish Newsletter will recommence on the weekend of 20-21/1/18. **Our thanks to Sunil, Robyn, Vickie, Lynette, Anna and Judy for so faithfully photocopying our Newsletter on Saturday mornings.**



We acknowledged

and 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.

Christmas Mass Times.

24/12. 6pm., Mass in the Fr. Bernie Costigan Centre. (Carols from 5.30pm).

25/12. Midnight and 9am. Mass in the Church. (Carols twenty minutes beforehand).

Reconciliation: Individual Rite. Sat. 23/12. 4.30 – 5.45pm.

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.”*

SVP offers –

-Columban Calendars at \$10 each.

St. Joseph's Seniors' Christmas Party 2017.

53 people had a very successful & enjoyable day at our 2017 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. 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, 6th Feb, 2018** after the 9am. Mass. We wish everyone, a very Safe & Holy Christmas and every Best Wish for 2018.
Ron & Therese Kissane.

Children's Liturgy.

We will start up again towards the end of February. Enq. Barbara

Kindy Liturgy.

Now in recess until mid-Feb. 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 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.

Attention Groups 3, 4, 5, 6 & 1. Please check your roster. 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.

Attention Groups 2,3,4,5 & 6. Please check your roster. 6pm. 7.30am. 9am.

Eucharistic Ministers.

Attention Groups 2,3,4,5 & 6. Please check your roster. 6pm. 7.30am. 9am.

Music Ministry.

Attention Groups 2,3,4,5 & 6. Please check your roster. 6pm. 7.30am. 9am.

Servers.

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

Counters Roster.

Attention Groups 2, 3,4,5 & 6. Please check your roster.

Newsletter Photocopying.

Rostered 20/1/18. Robyn Masterman.

Archdiocesan and Secular Calendar 24-31/12.

4th Sunday of Advent. Christmas Eve. Christmas Day. Boxing Day. The Holy Family. New Year's Eve. The Holy Innocents. Saints Stephen. John. Thomas Becket.

Our 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.

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". Enquiries to the Parish Office 3261 3670.

SALT - Young Adults Group.

Enq. Jess

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.

RCIA. Enquiries: Margaret

Parish Pastoral Council.

In response to feedback received through the Parish Consultation on sexual abuse in the Church, the first Parish Perpetual Day of Remembrance Liturgy will be held on Saturday 17/2/18 at 10am., (the first weekend in Lent). The theme of this service will also be included in the Friday Evening Prayer Vigil at 7pm., on the Friday evening 16/2/18. 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". Wishing you all a very peace-filled Christmas.

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

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 on our parish blog.

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.

Francis Sullivan (CEO TJHC) media blog at <http://tinyurl.com/TJHCblog>. 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.

Care for Creation Group.

<http://stjosephsbrackenridgecareforcreation.weebly.com> is our Care for Creation website and Facebook page. 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

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. 19/2/18. Enq. Jan or Jan

Vocation Views.

Every person who has ever born a child, and every person who has freely vowed away this honour, helps in some mysterious way to bring Jesus Christ into this world again. Can you say: "Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord?"

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

Fire & Spirit.

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. (We are not gathering in January)). 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.

Waq Update.

SOUTH SUDAN: BLACKALL/TAMBO:
Enq. Terry & Rita

Pope Francis –

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

Position Vacant.

All Sainst Parish, **Albany Creek** is seeking applications for the part-time position of Youth Ministry Coordinator working 20 hours per week. We are a community of young people from late primary through to high schoolers and young adults who are strongly supported by the wider All Saints parish family. We want to create exciting opportunities for young people to encounter Jesus through the Sacraments, events and outreach programs. Our goal is meet people wherever they are at and journey with them in becoming all that they were created to be. A position description is available upon request. Please contact the parish office on 3264 8283 or via email at albanyc@bne.catholic.net.au to request a copy. Commencement Date: 1/2/18. Applications close 15/1/18.

Good Samaritan & St. John the Baptist Parishes, Wilston

- are seeking applications for the casual position of Youth Ministry Coordinator working up to 10 hours per week. Applications close 22/1/18. To apply for this position, please email your current resume and a covering letter outlining your suitability for the position to kbcc@bne.catholic.net.au. Fr. Michael Grace Applications should include the name of two (2) referees one of which preferably should be a Parish Priest. For more information, please email kbcc@bne.catholic.net.au Parish Youth Ministry Worker.

Mother of Mercy Parish, Hendra/Northgate/Hamilton.

Part-time Youth Ministry Worker. 15 hours a week. Good pastoral and liturgical knowledge required. 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.

Holy Spirit Home Carseldine –

-has a north facing, one bedroom villa available for \$292,000. This refurbished villa has stone kitchen bench top, new carpet, tiled living area and lots of natural light. Enq. and to view, please contact Sharon Fry 3054 4635 Monday to Friday.

Giving for weekend 16-17/12.

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 \$557. Direct Debit \$1819. Loose \$1119. Total \$3495. Budgeted Weekly Target \$3596. Average: Week 51. \$3383.

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 Collection plate or email our Parish Office at bridge@bne.catholic.net.au and we will contact you. Many thanks for your support.

menALIVE in the City.

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

The Cathedral of St Stephen –

- are calling for new volunteers. Do you enjoy meeting people? Do you love your Cathedral? Do you revel in good art and juicy history? You are invited to talk with us about becoming a volunteer welcomer and guide at the Cathedral of St. Stephen. Join us for an information session to be held in the Hanly Room of the Francis Rush Centre on 1/2/18 from 10.30am.-12.30pm. Enq. Carmel Devery at the Cathedral office on 3324 3030 or e-mail deveryc@bne.catholic.net.au by 25/1/18.

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 weeks. Sharyn 3368 2450 by 2/2/18. www.faberspirituality.org.au fabercis@bigpond.com

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.

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

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.

Mary's Dream.



I had a dream, Joseph, I don't understand it. Not really. But I think it was about a birthday party for our son. I think that was what it was all about.

The people had been preparing for about six weeks. They had decorated their house and bought new clothes. They'd gone shopping many times and bought elaborate gifts.

It was peculiar though, because the presents weren't for our son. They wrapped them in beautiful paper and lovely bows and stacked them under a tree.

Yes, a tree Joseph, right in their house! They had also decorated the tree, and the branches were full of glowing balls and sparkling ornaments and lights.

There was a figure on top of the tree. It looked like an angel might look. Oh, it was beautiful! Everyone was laughing and happy.

They were all excited about the gifts. They gave the gifts to each other, Joseph, not our son. I don't think they even knew him. They never even mentioned his name!

Doesn't it seem odd for people to go to the trouble to celebrate someone's birthday if they don't know him?

I had the strangest feeling that if our son had gone to the celebration he would have been intruding.

Everything was so beautiful Joseph, and everyone was so delighted, but it made me want to cry.

How sad for Jesus – not wanted at his own birthday party. I'm so glad it was only a dream.

How terrible, Joseph, if it had been real!

