

Year 2018



Pray for Peace

**Parish Website:**

[www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com](http://www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com)

**Parish Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/stjosephsbrackenridge](http://www.facebook.com/stjosephsbrackenridge)

**Parish Email:**

[bridge@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:bridge@bne.catholic.net.au)

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**  
**11<sup>th</sup> of March**

**Liturgical Calendar**

**Today:**

Year B. Mass prepared by Group 6.

**Readings:**

2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23. Psalm 136.  
Ephesians 2:4-10. John 3:14-21.

**Next Week 17-18/3.**

Jeremiah 31:31-34. Psalm 50. Hebrews 5:7-9.  
John 12:20-30.

**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 65:17-21. P.29. John 4:43-54.

Tue. Micah 7:7-9. P.26. John 9:1-4.

Wed. Isaiah 49:8-15. P.144. John 5:17-30.

Thu. Exodus 32:7-14. P.105. John 5:31-47.

Fri. Wisdom 2:1,12-22. P.33. John 7:1-2,10,25-30.

Sat. Jeremiah 1:4-9. P.116. Luke 10:1-12,17-20.

**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-4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent Year B (John 3:14-21)**

-Veronica Lawson RSM

The gospel for today is the concluding section of Jesus' conversation with a Pharisee called Nicodemus, who comes to him "by night". It features a number of typically Johannine themes: life, eternal life, believing, seeing, God's love, salvation, judgment, light, darkness, the world, truth. John loves to play on words. Without losing sight of the material reality underlying each image, we need to keep asking: how is this word or expression to be understood in this particular context? In John's gospel, the characters often misunderstand and this gives Jesus the opportunity to lead his hearers to a deeper or different understanding of his words.

As 21<sup>st</sup> century readers, we operate out of a symbol system that belongs in a different time and a different place, hence the need to explore the traditions informing the stories. The first two verses of today's reading evoke the ancient Israelite tradition of the bronze serpent (Numbers 21:5-9). According to the story, the Israelites are unhappy with their lot in the desert. They complain about the food or lack thereof. They blame both God and Moses. Their situation worsens with the outbreak of a plague of poisonous snakes whose bite has killed a considerable number of them. The people interpret the plague as punishment for their sin of speaking against God. They ask Moses to intercede with God. God instructs Moses to make an image of a fiery serpent and set it on a pole: anyone affected by snakebite has only to look upon the image to find life and healing. And so it happens: the bronze serpent is lifted up and those who "see" or "look upon it" find life.

Life and death, seeing and believing in God's love and mercy are at the heart of the story of the bronze serpent. The gospel writer taps into the collective memory of the emerging Christian community: just as the serpent was lifted up and the people found life, so will Jesus be lifted up and those who believe in him will find life. In John's gospel, seeing is often equated with believing and believing leads to "life".

The bottom line is God's saving love for "the world", for the whole Earth community. Most of the themes in this passage have already been introduced in the prologue to the gospel. Here for the first time in the gospel, God's saving activity is expressed in terms of "love". God's love is explicitly related to the gift of Jesus, God's Son, for the salvation of the world. Salvation resides in acceptance of Jesus, judgment in the refusal to accept Jesus as the revelation of God. Later in this

gospel (12:33), Jesus will again reference the bronze serpent story in an expansive embrace of all creation: "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all to myself."



### 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](mailto: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 Broughe,

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

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.

### **Sizzling FREE Sausage Sizzle.**

This will be held to celebrate the feast of St. Joseph NEXT weekend, 17 & 18 March, after all three Masses. Tea, coffee and cordial will also be available.

### **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."*

### **Children's Liturgy.**

Today, Our Years Prep – 3 are invited to join us in the Parish Centre during the Liturgy of the Word at the 9am. Mass. Rostered 18/3 Robyn Masterman. Enq. Barbara

### **Kindy Liturgy.**

Our little people are invited to join us in the Parish Centre during the Liturgy of the Word at the 9am. Mass only. Sessions will be announced at the commencement of 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.

### **St. Joseph's Seniors' Outing.**

City Hall Concert. Tue. 20/3. After the 9am. Liturgy, we will catch the CityExpress Bus from St. Joseph's Bus Stop in Phillips Street, departing at 9:34am. Morning Tea (Venue TBA). Kelly Family Band Concert. Celebrating St. Patrick's Day. 12 Middy till 1pm. We will then have lunch at a venue TBA, before returning home on the bus. Please bring along your GoCard. It will be a "fun day", so feel free to join us for this outing. If you haven't already advised us that you are coming, just contact us so we can reserve seats for Lunch. Enq. Therese & Ron Kissane

### **Baptism.**

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

### **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 prayers in the newsletter, please contact Barbara

### **Condolence.**

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

### **Recently Deceased:**

### **Memorial:**

All our deceased family members and friends.

### **Liturgy Roster.**

#### **Liturgy Preparation.**

For weekend 24-25/3. Group 2. Enq. Helen Hickey. 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, 17-18/3. Group 1. 6pm. P. Phillips. N. D'Souza. D. Griffiths. 7.30am. G. Endicott. L. McDonough. L. Olley. 9am. D. Riggall. S. Turner. N. Rao.

#### **Eucharistic Ministers.**

For next weekend. Group 1. 6pm. R. Kissane. M. Caruso. A. Fulton. A. Isaak. P. Ryan. 7.30am. J. & S. Rogers. J. & C. Van der Maat. K. Ryan. 9am. G. Cameron. K. Turner. N. Sheridan. E. Schneider-Loos. S. Turner.

#### **Music Ministry.**

For next weekend. Group 1. 6pm. L. & L. Esparcia. 7.30am. P. Olley. J. McCoy. 9am. S. & G. Fernandes.

#### **Servers.**

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

#### **Counters Roster.**

Group 1. 18/3. Philip. Peter & Sunil. Group 2. 25/3. Debbie, Matthew & Julian.

#### **Newsletter Photocopying.**

Rostered 17/3. Lynette D'Souza.

### **Archdiocesan/Secular Calendar 11-18/3.**

4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of Lent. Project Compassion. Centacare CFRS. Alpha Programme. International Women's Day. Holy and Glorious Pascha-Fesakh-Hajmeh. Saint Patrick.

### **Easter Choir.**

Once again we're gathering all our amazing musicians and singers to lift us in song during Holy Week and Easter. Practices on Tuesdays at 7:30pm., in the church. All most welcome.

### **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](mailto:bridge@bne.catholic.net.au) with the heading "For the attention of the Pastoral Council".

### **Lent.**

*Surrender Lenten Program includes a daily reflection – Love to have you join one of the Reflection Groups below or perhaps reflect at home.*

*Monday: 1pm-2pm – All welcome!*

*Tuesday: 7:30pm-8:30pm - Men's Prayer Group – Open to all!*

*Wednesday: 9:30am-10:30am - Ladies'*

*Prayer Group- Open to all!*

*(Group sign on sheet on paper table).*

*Rosary: Tuesdays following 9am Mass.*

*Stations of the Cross: Fridays following 9am Mass.*

*Friday Night Prayer Vigil: 7-8pm.*

*Anointing Mass: 6<sup>th</sup> March 9am.*

### **Our Parish Newsletter online.**

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

### **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 on our parish blog.

### **RCIA.**

Enquiries: Margaret

### **Royal Commission Information.**

The final Report may be read at <https://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/final-report> Francis Sullivan (CEO Truth, Justice & Healing Council TJHC) <http://www.tjhcouncil.org.au/> will finalise his report by end of March 2018. The Truth, Justice and Healing Council was formed to oversee the Church's engagement with the Royal Commission and will shortly be disbanded on completion of its work. The parish will continue to closely monitor for new information, relating to the Commission, and is committed to providing you with updates of news, as it becomes available.

### **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 - Chermshire 07 3624 2400  
Living Well - Strathpine 07 3028 4648  
Netta Sheridan.

### **Vocation Views.**

When we are 'born again' in baptism, we really become a new creation, fired with a new love, and aimed in a new direction – heaven. Let Jesus talk with you. Let Jesus challenge you.

### **Catholic Social Justice Council website.**

[www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au).

Copies of the Statement are available on the Paper Table.

### **@BNEArchdiocese Mobile App.**

Archbishop Mark's Homilies, Mass Times, news, events, Enq. [brisbanecatholic.org.au](http://brisbanecatholic.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.

### **WAG Update.**

We have received some sad news from Blackall. One of the young families live on a property outside Blackall. The parents are heavily involved as volunteers in youth programs in Blackall. The father decided to mow the grass around the homestead. Whilst mowing, the mower hit a rock which sent sparks into the dry grass and the resulting fire destroyed their home and everything in it. The eldest daughter attends St. Joseph's in Blackall and some of our Bracken Ridge parishioners who frequent Blackall have helped out with uniforms etc. Many thanks to them for their generosity. We are not seeking any material assistance for the family, as they are now living in a relative's house in town. But we would ask you to keep this family in particular in your prayers and thoughts as they re-build their lives.

Let us continue to pray for the people of BLACKALL / TAMBO Parish, and of SOUTH SUDAN as we put our focus on the Caritas Lenten Appeal. The buckets and/or watering cans will appear again after Easter.

### **2018 Parish Sacramental Programme.**

The next opportunity for enrolment for the Sacraments of Initiation of children will be Tue. 29/5 at 7.30pm., in the Church. Those eligible to continue the journey of Faith must be baptised and one of the Parents needs to be Catholic to help pass on the Catholic faith tradition. Children in Year 3,4,5,6 are most welcome to prepare for the Sacraments. If you have children close in age you may like to consider waiting until your youngest child is in Year 3 and enrol your children in the same year. *Confirmation* will be celebrated on 12 & 19/10 at 7pm. *First Reconciliation* will be celebrated in small groups with approximately 8-10 families at each celebration in March, 2019. *First Eucharist* will be celebrated in June 2019 (dates TBA). At the enrolment meeting on 29/5, Fr. John Chalmers will speak to us all on Sacraments and life. Fr. John has an amazing gift of helping us make the connections with everyday life and God. There will be a short presentation outlining the Sacramental journey you will undertake with your child. Enrolment forms will be available at that meeting. Enrolment forms must be returned by Fri. 15/6. Please note that a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate will need to be included with your enrolment form if your child was not baptised at St. Joseph's. Enq. to the Parish Office on Monday, Tuesday or Friday mornings on 3261 3670 or email Helen

### **Pope Francis –**

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

### **Two-Minute Homilies.**

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

### **menALIVE in the City.**

Enq. 3367 1402 or [mail@menalive.org.au](mailto:mail@menalive.org.au)

### **St. Josephs School.**

Our school photos are scheduled for Mon. 12/3, with family photos being taken on Tuesday, 13/3. The Trivia/Casino 'Fun' Night is not far away - Friday 27/4. Early Bird Special: Purchase your tickets before Monday, 26/3 and you will receive double 'Fun Money'. Instead of receiving \$1,000 with your entry, you will receive \$2,000! Tickets are available from the school office. Please send in your correct cash payment with your name, table name, child's name and class. Sorry, EFT is not available for these purchases. Start organising your tables, it's going to be an amazing evening. Applications for Prep 2019 are due by 16/3. Application forms can be accessed from our website or by contacting the Office. Siblings are guaranteed a place but applications still have to be in on time. If you know of families outside our school wanting to attend here, please ensure that they are aware of this information. The Coles Sport for Schools Programme is back, so please if you shop at Coles, collect the vouchers and bring them in to the office. Every \$10 spent earns 1 voucher. The more vouchers our school collects, the more sporting gear we receive. Collection boxes are also at the store. Queensland School Libraries Week 5-9/3. They say that a 'house without books is like a body without a soul'. Perhaps the same can be said about a school without a library – something would definitely be missing At St Joseph's without our school library! Extensive research from around the world points towards elevated student learning when there is a well-developed library collection with qualified staff working closely with teachers and parents. School libraries also provide a social space to meet, learn, share and relax. "Happy Queensland School Libraries Week" everyone!

### **St Joey's Out of School Hours Care.**

Lia Wain has been appointed as one of the Area Supervisors in the Archdiocese. Kylie Dempsey is our local St Joey's Co-Ordinator. Congratulations to Lia and Kylie on your new positions. Fr Gerry.

### **Our Library.**

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

### **Palms Encounter.**

Limited spaces available for trip to Timor-Leste. 11-23/3. Enq. Palms 02 9560 5333. Further details available at [www.palms.org.au/encounters](http://www.palms.org.au/encounters)

### **Brisbane City Social Bridge Club.**

Penola Place in St. Stephen's Cathedral grounds. Mon. Wed. and Thur. from 10am. to 1pm. Lessons for beginners available. Enq. Beris 3300 1332.

### **Coron District Hospital, Palawan-**

Philippines. Special Appeal for items to be sent to the Coron District Hospital. Urgent need for: Used blankets, used pillowcases, used single bed sheets, (please note cotton material only as Coron has a tropical climate). Washcloths and towels, used muslin wrap for newborn babies. Please leave items in the marked containers at the back of the church. Donations will be accepted until 18/3. If anyone would like to donate in cash, an account has been established with Go Fund Me. The link is <https://www.gofundme.com/support-coron-district-hospital> and further details are in the link. Enquiries to Sherry Balagtas

### **Jumble Sale.**

At St. Gerard Majella Church, 146 Maundrell Tce., Chermide West Saturday 17 March, 6am. -1pm. Credit card facilities available, plenty of offstreet parking. Huge amount of items for sale in good condition. Enquiries 3359 0239.

### **In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop -**

2018 National Pilgrimage. The Sisters of St Joseph invite you to join the National Pilgrimage, giving you the opportunity to journey to significant places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop. Commence in Melbourne 23/10, travel through Victoria & South Australia, conclude in Sydney 3/11. COST EX BRISBANE: \$3,360.00 (all inclusive: airfares, accommodation, coach travel, admission fees and meals). Single Supplement: \$700.00. For further information, please contact Sr. Therese Leydon 0417 683123 or Sr. Annie Bond 02 89124818, or email [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au).

### **Cherish Life.org.au**

March for Life 2018. Sun. 18/3. At Queens Park, Cnr. Elizabeth and George Sts., Brisbane. 1.30pm. Gather. 2pm. March. Join us for the most important March for Life in Queensland's history. Together we can let our Government know we do not want abortion on demand. (Wear white if possible to represent the innocent unborn). Enq. 3871 2445 or [comms@cherishlife.org.au](mailto:comms@cherishlife.org.au)

### **Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration.**

At the Banyo Nundah Parish. Enq. [perpetual.adoration.nundah@gmail.com](mailto:perpetual.adoration.nundah@gmail.com)