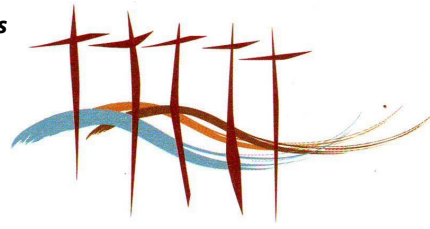


BURLEIGH HEADS CATHOLIC PARISH

- **BURLEIGH WATERS - MARY, MOTHER OF MERCY CHURCH, 3 Sunlight Dr, Burleigh Waters**
- **BURLEIGH HEADS - INFANT SAVIOUR CHURCH, 4 Park Av, Burleigh Heads**
- **PALM BEACH - OUR LADY OF THE WAY CHURCH - Eleventh Ave, Palm Beach**
- **MIAMI - CALVARY CHURCH - Redondo Av, Miami**
- **MUDGEERABA - ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH - Wallaby Dr, Mudgeeraba**
- **SPRINGBROOK - ST TERESA'S CATHOLIC COM-**



PARISH OFFICE: Mon - Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm
3 Sunlight Dr, Burleigh Waters
[PO Box 73 Burleigh Heads]
www.burleighheadscatholic.com.au

Phone: 5576 6466 [also for After Hours]
e-mail: burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au
facebook: BurleighCatholicParish



PARISH PASTORAL TEAM:

Fr Morgan Batt - Parish Priest
Fr Saji George, CMI - Parochial Vicar
Fr Jacob Kalu - Parochial Vicar

Parish Business & Finance Manager
Mr Neil Segerdahl - manager.burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Sacramental Co-Ordinator - Angela Williams
Parish Women's Advisory - Bev Tronc, Maree Wright
Parish Advisory Council Chair - David Sewell
Parish Safeguarding Officer - Bren Milsom
Parish Youth Minister - Darcy Rogers

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time 20 October, 2019

Year C: Ex 17:8-13; 2 Tim 3:14-4:2; Lk 18:1-8

next week's Readings: Sirach 35:12-14,16-19; 2 Tim 4:6-8,16-18; Lk 18:9-14

We need to be wary of today's parable of the widow and the unjust judge, lest we convey a false image of God. (Remember the command, "Thou shall not have strange gods before me.") Well, if we are not careful, we are liable to preach a "strange god" and even seem to make what we say sound legitimate or backed up by this parable.

The trap lies in our modern tendency to be too literal. By that I mean, we tend to miss the imaginative aspects of these parables and apply a strict formula to them in our interpretation. It goes something like this: the judge is God and we are the widows. So, like the widow we need to pray incessantly if we want to get what we want from God. Keep at it, God will eventually give in – isn't that what the parable seems to imply? This, or similar ways of interpreting parables, treats them as allegories – not parables. Look what such an interpretation does to our faith: it paints God as hard hearted and our constant prayer like water dripping on the stone heart of a reluctant God, hoping to eventually wear God down on our behalf. Remember too that the judge in the parable is unjust – making it even more dangerous to allegorize this parable, lest God take on the features of this judge in our spiritual imaginations.

If God gets so misrepresented then we, who are praying earnestly and even desperately for something, are made to feel doubly alone, with no one on our side against the Almighty and seeming-reluctant God. If this is what we convey, no matter how unintentionally, then we will have preached a "strange god" indeed! Certainly not the God of Jesus' words and actions. This false image will only reinforce an old stereotype of a God so offended by our sin, that God would punish us severely, were it not for Jesus, God's beloved child who, by his faithfulness and sacrifice, stays God's angry hand. This makes God sound schizophrenic – partially with us in Jesus, but ill disposed as our Creator – with the Holy Spirit going back and forth between us humans and the two trying to tie up the loose ends.

Even if we didn't have the citation telling us that this is a parable from Luke's gospel, we could easily guess its authorship. The parable has the signs of a Lucan tale, for again, we hear his often-repeated themes about the poor, women, and prayer. Widows were especially vulnerable in biblical times and in the scriptures we often hear the reference to "widows and orphans" – two particularly defenceless and needy groups. A widow would be dependent on her sons, or a close male relative to take care of her. She was especially vulnerable if the responsible males were indifferent to her welfare, or worse, had defrauded her. In such situations a widow would have recourse to a judge who was supposed to protect the rights of widows and the poor. But the judge to whom our widow turns has no regard for her plight and "neither feared God nor respected any human being." What chance would she have against a judge like this who disregards the basic commandments about God and neighbour? The cards are stacked against her and things look pretty grim for her ever getting her due.

But this is no ordinary widow! She confronts the judge using the only things she has on her side – her voice and her persistence. What she wants is justice, but from a judge who is not in the least bit interested in giving it to her. The only recourse she would normally have had is not in the least bit interested in her just cause. But by her persistence she wears down the judge who finally gives in to her. Don't you find it amusing to hear the judge's fear that a widow is going to come and "strike" him? The original language suggests that he is afraid she will give him a black eye. I hear Jesus' listeners, so often denied their own rights before the rich and powerful, chuckling as Jesus paints this picture of a "dangerous" widow who will give a good boxing to a corrupt male judge.

The widow's plight calls to mind those who are deprived of justice in our own society. Will the voices of the poor and powerless be outshouted by individuals and special interest groups who have more financial or voting power? Most often

continued next page ...

Parish Weekly Diary....

Monday, 21 October

St Jules Chevalier

9.00am **Mass** - Miami - followed by Adoration
of Blessed Sacrament until 11am
6.30pm RCIA Enquiry Night - Parish Boardroom

Tuesday, 22 October

St John Paul II

7.30am **Mass** - Burleigh Waters
6.30pm Brazilian Catholic Community - Miami

Wednesday, 23 October

St John Capistrano

7.00am **Mass** - Miami
9.30am **Mass** - Ozanam Villa
5.30pm **Mass** - Palm Beach

Thursday, 24 October

St Anthony Claret

7.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads
5.30pm **Mass** - Mudgeeraba

Friday, 25 October

9.00am **Mass** - Robina Hospital
10.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Waters

Saturday, 26 October

8.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads
4.30pm Sacrament of Penance - Miami
5.30pm Sacrament of Penance - Palm Beach
5.45pm Sacrament of Penance - Burleigh Heads

Saturday, 26 October

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 5.00pm **Mass** - Miami
Sat 6.00pm **Mass** - Palm Beach
Sat 6.15pm **Mass** - Burleigh Heads

SUNDAY, 27 October

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads
7.00am **Mass** - Palm Beach
8.30am **Mass** - Miami
8.30am **Mass** - Mudgeeraba
10.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Waters (Yr 8 Connect Mass)
5.00pm Sacrament of Penance - Burleigh Waters
5.30pm **Mass** - Burleigh Waters
7.00pm **Mass** - Bond University (Student Lounge)

Bond University Sunday Mass - 24 November - 7pm
in the Student Lounge

the poor, minorities, immigrants, homeless, infirmed, aged and very young are not first on the minds of those in office. We can hear the widow's voice in another way, for now she is speaking for those in our society who are not heard despite their just and desperate need. Will her voice be heard today by city planners deciding where to put a new power plant, city dump, petro-chemical plant, refinery? Who will influence municipal and federal governments when decisions are being made about which homes will be destroyed to build a super highway? Picture the widow standing among those disenfranchised at our borders and hear her voice, "Render a just decision for [us] against [our] adversary."

This is one of those "how-much-more parables." Jesus paints a picture of a despicable judge who eventually gives in to the persistent demands of the widow. It is as if he is saying, "If this kind of a person eventually responds, how much more will God?" Why? Because God is not turned against us and will "secure the rights" of God's chosen. Of course, our struggle lies in the fact that so much in our world is unjust, especially for the disenfranchised. We pray for things to be put right and even pray that we can help make them so. Yet often, conditions don't improve, sometimes they even get worse. Doesn't that make you want to despair of every seeing things righted? So, we are tempted to cease our works and quite our prayers. "What's the use?", we lament. Even when things improve a bit there still is an enormous mountain of wrongs to address – in our homes, church, community and world. We feel our efforts are so puny and so we are tempted to withdraw back into our private world saying, "What difference can I make?" Such feelings tempt us to quit our efforts at prayer and works on behalf of God's reign. Jesus expresses how serious the issues are, how powerful the forces against us are and seems to worry about the effects on his disciples. He asks, "But when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?" Not an idle, or speculative question, but one that is based on the experiences of the church from its beginnings: disciples have hard work and prayer to do until the Lord returns and the wait, without immediate signs of "success," can disillusion us and threaten our faith.

I like the first reading's image for prayer. As powerful and exemplary a model of faith Moses was during hard times, nevertheless, as the battle against Amalek wears on, Moses' raised hands "grew tired." We can identify with that fatigue, we who find it hard to keep our hands raised in prayer as life tries to wear us down. Even Moses needed help. So, Aaron and Hur support his hands, "one on one side and one on the other, so his hands remained steady till sunset." We all need help in our struggles against evil forces and in our desire to stay faithful in hard times.

Look around at those who worship with us at this Eucharist. We see the elderly, even infirmed, here – still praying. We know of those who can't get out of bed to come to church, but we also know they are praying and staying faithful. They give strength and determination to our faltering prayer, they help keep our hands "raised." Perhaps someone notices us here at worship. We don't think of ourselves as great models of faith, but who knows what straggling soul at prayer is helped by seeing us here? We may be helping them keep their faltering and tired hands "raised" in hope and prayer.



The 6 NATIONAL THEMES for DISCERNMENT



Plenary Council 2020- National Themes for Discernment:

On 4th and 5th October over 400 people from across the Brisbane Archdiocese gathered to discern some of the national themes that are emerging from the questions and ideas that have been collated from the material forwarded to the Council from parishes across Australia.

The program was very full, informative and interesting. The welcome and prayer were powerful and inspiring. Input from different speakers highlighted the value of discernment and provided ideas and tools for communal dialogue. Scripture was used as a starting point to allow participants to work through the process together in sessions based on different themes.(i.e. *How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church that is.. joyful, hope-filled and servant community*) Brisbane is certainly leading the way in providing this opportunity for people from various parishes and groups to come together and further the work already begun.

There were two main things that need to be considered by all of us from what was learnt. Firstly, listening to each other and being open to listen to what the Spirit is saying is crucial if the Plenary Council is to bring about changes for the Catholic Church in Australia. Being open and not having an agenda is a start and realising that dealing with a messy contradiction of ideas to discern a truth is a lengthy process not a quick fix. Secondly, we can all have a voice in this, both practising and non-practising Catholics. So get involved and share ideas about what the church does well and what the church could do better. Maybe we can all ask our non-practising family and friends to make a response about what would bring them back.

What has emerged from all the material gathered so far are six distinct national themes with writing groups made up of a cross section of people of various ages, gender and expertise who are collating all the dialogue and research and preparing papers. These papers will be presented to the Australian Bishops in October 2020.

Let us keep the work of the Plenary Council in our prayers. Keep yourself informed and use the link below to share or contribute to the future of the Catholic Church in Australia. <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au>

Bev Tronc - Parish Women's Advisory

DISCOVERY RECOLLECTION DAY

All invited to a half day of praise and worship, spiritual talks, group discussions, workshops/activities and fellowship on Sunday 27 October, 11.30am - 3.30pm, in the Children's Liturgy Room at Mary, Mother of Mercy Church, Burleigh Waters.

Have you really discovered your purpose in life? Have you been given gifts that you have not fully used? What are the challenges and trials you face that hinder you from doing God's work? Can we be instruments to change other people's lives?

For a deeper understanding of God's purpose in our lives, come and join in this inspiring spirit-filled day.

Light refreshments will be provided. No cost to attend, however, for catering purposes please send sms to numbers below with your name and mobile number.

Butch - 0424 583169; Mini - 0424 583168



Parish News and Happenings



PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT

WHO CAN JOIN A FAMILY GROUP? ANYONE! Seniors, Young, Catholic or not, Married, Single, Widowed or Divorced. EVERYONE!

Family Groups do not need to cut across existing friendships. Rather they add a new dimension to parish life which allows non-Catholic spouses, inactive Catholics and those who do not feel they truly "belong" to become part of our parish community. Family Groups provide a non-threatening atmosphere, so this can happen in a gentle way. There is no catch, it is just being what the church should be.

Family Groups strive to meet the needs of the heart, rather than the head and all Family Group activities are aimed at no cost or low cost, so that everyone can be included. Think about joining and tell your friends about it!

Would you like to know more about the Catholic faith?

RCIA ENQUIRY NIGHT

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will be held on **Monday 21 October**

6.30 - 8.30pm in the boardroom

Mary, Mother of Mercy, Burleigh Waters

This is a night when anyone who may be interested in becoming a Catholic or needing to receive the sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion, or perhaps just learning about the Catholic faith, is welcome. People willing to be sponsors or to accompany someone are also invited.

Further information phone the Parish Office on 5576 64666 or Josee Hill on 0430 546465.

- **HOLY LAND PILGRIM SHARING - Wine and Cheese Night.** Come and hear the stories and learnings from the parish pilgrims. All welcome Friday 8 November, Mercy Community Centre, 7 - 8pm. Learn about next year's Pilgrimage of Prayer.

- **PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO MARIAN VALLEY** - To celebrate the month of the Holy Rosary, you are invited to visit Marian Valley, Canungra, on Saturday 26 October, to honour Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. Please bring picnic food for morning tea and lunch. Bus transport available - to secure a seat please register by phoning the Parish Office. Bus will leave Marymount College car park area (adjacent to Doyle Centre) at 9.30am and return approximately 4pm. \$20 per seat.

- **MUSIC MINISTRY MEETING** - Wednesday 23 October, 10am, Parish Office. All welcome.



SAINT THERESE OF LISIEUX BURLEIGH PARISH AND AUSTRALIAN VISIT IN 2020

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.

A draft itinerary shows the relics travelling to Brisbane, then visiting Coorparoo, Springfield Parish, Cathedral Parish, Gympie Parish, Caboolture Parish, Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre Ormiston, **Burleigh Heads Parish (February 13-14)** and Marian Valley Retreat before heading to Northern NSW.

This is a great honour for our Parish to host the relics. More information on our parish program next year.

- **NOVEMBER - ALL SOULS** - Saturday 2 November, Mass, 8am, Infant Saviour Church and 8am at Parish Cemetery, Tallebudgera (54 Trees Rd). Also each Friday during November - Sung Evening Prayer, 6pm, Mary, Mother of Mercy Church Columbarium to pray for the deceased of our parish and families.

- **HOSPITAL PASTORAL CARER (Volunteer)** - Centacare trains and supports Catholic pastoral care teams to provide pastoral and spiritual care to hospital patients, their families and hospital staff. If you would like to find out more about this rewarding role you are invited to an Expressions of Interest morning tea on Thursday 7 November, 10 - 11.30am in Surfers Paradise Parish, 50 Fairway Dr, Clear Island Waters. For more information or to RSVP, phone Judy on 3324 3193 or email judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au

SICK & SPECIAL NEEDS

Your prayers have been requested for Michael Allan, Noreen Andersen, Patricia Ashton, Glenys Bailey, Ida Elda Bonke, Leigh Boulcher, Peter Briggs, William Buckley, Lily Burgstaller, James Burke, Diane Busutil, Joyce Cabral, Jan Carmont, Stephen Cochrane, John Costigan, Fr Des Fitzgerald, Angelita Freda, Norma Greenland, Geromy Grima, Fred Grioli, Vera Havlik, Cheryl Hingerty, Jean Hokin, Norman Ingle, Stuart Ingram, Veronica James, Clive Andrew Lang, Denis McEnery, Anne McInnes, Fay & Dennis McGreevy, Margaret Merrotsy, Terry Miners, John Mooney, Pat Moy, Stephen Murray, Josie Nocolas, Mary O'Brien, Sr Annette O'Connor, Paul O'Connor, Eileen O'Neill, Michael Onn, Sean O'Reilly, Anne Owens, Maureen Pocock, Phyllis Pola, William Sheehan, Peter Smith, Pacing Soriano, Isaac Stafrace, Andrew Supple, Odette Sweeney, Luke Thorpe, Lourdes Toledo, Nemcio Toledo, Sarra Tyler, Marie Walker, Dan Wilson, Graham Zender, Norah Zipf, the sick of our Parish and all in need of God's healing Spirit.

DECEASED

Masses have been requested for the recently deceased and for friends and relatives whose anniversaries occur about this time: John Kilfoy, Janine Kilfoy, Barry Zimmerman, Ken Paholski, Kathleen Simmons.

May the choirs of angels come to greet you ...

Family Groups



Goannas, Wallabies and Have-A-Chats

Sunday 27 October - 11.30am
Celebrating 21 years of our Family Groups with a combined luncheon, The Bistro at Emerald Lakes Golf, Alabaster Dr, Carrara
rsvp to Rosemary 0412 606492 by 20/10

PLANNED GIVING LAST WEEK - ☺

CODE: ☺☺ = very good;
☺ = good;
☺ = hangin' in there;
☺ = help!

Counting roster this week: Burleigh Heads

2018 EXPENSES:

Church phones and ADSL - \$19,200.00



TRC
COMING AGAIN TO
BURLEIGH PARISH
in NOVEMBER 2019

The Recovery Course is open to anyone struggling with any sort of addiction or compulsive behaviour - drugs, alcohol, food, pornography, gambling self-harming, etc. You might be ready to embark on a journey of recovery or you might have been in recovery for years. Everyone is welcome.

New course starting 11th November. This course uses the 12 Steps as they were originally intended, with Christ at the centre. www.therecoverycourse.com

More information: Damien Kinnear 0401 313 258; kinneark@bigpond.net.au

NEW AGAIN!!

(From our Parish Youth Minister)

As the holidays came to an end, so have the former ways in which 25 youth and young adults of our South Coast Denary lived their day to day lives. With great support from Marymount College and St Michael's College, we embarked on a great journey to the Ignite Conference in Redcliffe. The Holy Spirit was truly alive within us all, inspiring us to pray anew, get out of our comfort zones and be led by Jesus in our day to day lives. The group enjoyed dancing and praising in the mosh pits, time of communion with one another, participating in the sacraments and all the dynamic speakers on

offer. One thing that truly clicked within a lot of us was the action of changing our heart of stone to a heart of flesh. Another thing that truly inspired me was hearing how hungry our group was to see a real, living and thriving church on the Gold Coast. So, what's next for this group and the church of Burleigh? To do just that! As much as we loved the event, we can hear a deeper call of the youth and adults of our church, they want more! Stay tuned as we continue to allow our Parish to be divinely lead and inspired by God.

God bless you all,

Darcy Rogers - Parish Youth Minister.

Liturgical Music for the Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

INTRODUCTORY RITES:

Gathering:

Praise To You, O Christ

*Praise to you, O Christ, our Saviour,
Word of the Father, calling us to life;
Son of God who leads us to freedom:
glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*



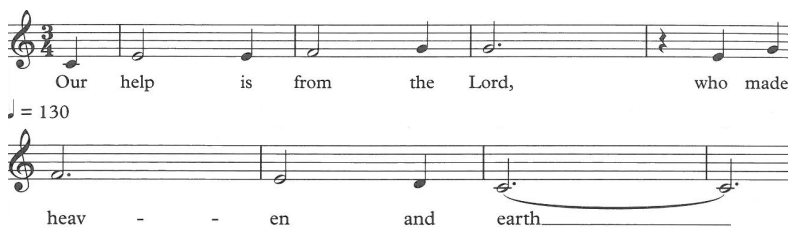
You are the one whom prophets hoped and longed for;
you are the one who speaks to us today;
you are the one who leads us to our future:
glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

You are the Word who binds us and unites us;
you are the Word who calls us to be one;
you are the Word who teaches us forgiveness:
glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

© 1986, Bernadette Farrell, OCP Publications

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

Psalm Response:



© 2012, Amanda McKenna, Willow Publishing

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST:

We proclaim your death, O Lord,
and profess your resurrection
until you come again.

Psalm Responses for Weekday Masses this week:

Monday: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel;
he has come to his people.

Tuesday: Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Wednesday: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Thursday: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Friday: Teach me your laws, O Lord.

Saturday: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST:

Communion: Eat This Bread

*Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.*

I am the bread of life,
the true bread sent from the Father.

Your ancestors ate manna in the desert
but this is the bread come down from heaven.

Eat my flesh and drink my blood,
and I will raise you up on the last day.

Any one who eats this bread, will live for ever.

© Jacques Berthier, Ateliers Et Presses De Taize

Thanksgiving:



© Jacques Berthier, Taize Communauté, France

CONCLUDING RITES

Dismissal:

Though The Mountains May Fall

*Though the mountains may fall
and the hills turn to dust,
yet the love of the Lord will stand
as a shelter for all who will call on his name.
Sing the praise and the glory of God.*

Could the Lord ever leave you?
Could the Lord forget his love?
Though a mother forsake her child,
he will not abandon you.

Should you turn and forsake him,
he will gently call your name.
Should you wander away from him,
he will always take you back.

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Care & Concern 5576 6318

Choir 5520 2591

Christian Meditation 5593 3794

Family Groups 0412 606492

Ladies' Dinner 5576 2623

Parish Lunch 5535 8714

Marymount Primary 5535 1803

Marymount College 5586 1000

menALIVE Group 0412 270828

Men's Dinner 5576 2623

Ozanam Villa 5507 0800

St Vincent de Paul 1800 846643

TEAMS Married Couples 5522 4880

Youth 0430 960802