

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 - Santa Monica Rd, Miami**
- **MUDGEERABA - ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH - Wallaby Dr, Mudgeeraba**



PARISH OFFICE: Mon - Fri 9.00am - 5.00pm
3 Sunlight Dr, Burleigh Waters
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PARISH PASTORAL TEAM:

Fr Stanley Orji - Administrator

Fr Dantus Thottathil, MCBS - Associate Pastor

Parish Business & Finance Manager

Mr Jim Littlefield manager.burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

30 July, 2017

Year A: 1 Kg 3:5,7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

Obtaining the greatest possible treasure...

There is a story from the Desert Fathers about a young monk who asked one of the old monks why it was that so many people came out to the desert to seek God and yet most of them gave up after a short time and returned to their lives in the city. The old monk told him, "Last evening my dog saw a rabbit running for cover among the bushes of the desert and he began to chase the rabbit, barking loudly. Soon other dogs joined in the chase, barking and running. They ran a great distance and alerted many other dogs. Soon the wilderness was echoing the sounds of their pursuit but the chase went on into the night. After a little while, many of the dogs grew tired and dropped out. A few chased the rabbit until the night was nearly spent. By morning, only my dog continued the hunt. "Do you understand what I have told you?" the old man said. "No," replied the young monk. "It is simple," said the old monk, "my dog saw the rabbit." Jesus told a parable about a man who, one day in the market place, saw the pearl of great price. The merchant understood at once the value of the commodity before him and he sacrificed everything to obtain it.

Jesus wants us to know that the Kingdom of God is worth all we have. He offers us God's Kingdom, a unique pearl of the greatest price. True disciples are those who respond to this opportunity with joy and selfless commitment, eagerly giving top priority to building God's Kingdom by doing His will, whatever it may be. The "treasures" and "pearls" of everlasting value are the things of God. They are the love of family and friends, the support of community, and the sense of fulfilment that rises from serving and giving for the sake of others. In order to attain such treasure, we must sell off our own interests, ambitions and agendas and thus free ourselves to embrace the lasting values of compassion, love and mercy of God which reconciles us to Himself. This parable teaches us that, although we are baptized Christians, we still need to pursue the true and full meaning of the Gospel. We always need to understand more, to love more, and to serve more. This parable also reminds us that the most precious things in life are to know God and to live according to the Gospel.

The parables of the "treasure" and "pearl" illustrate the opportunity as well as the challenge of discipleship. It speaks of the total commitment and dedication which are the ideal of every follower of Christ. What the parables really teach us is that, when one discovers Jesus and his vision of life, everything else becomes secondary. That is what St. Paul meant when he said: "I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as refuse, in order that I may gain Christ" (Phil 3:8), and again "For me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Phil 2:21). To have a personal experience of Christ and personal relationship with Him – in other words, to have made Christ's view of life our own – is the most precious thing in the world.

Blessings

Fr Dantus Thottathil

Parish Weekly Diary....

Monday, 31 July

9.00am **Mass** - Miami
- followed by Adoration of Blessed Sacrament until 11am

Tuesday, 1 August

7.30am **Mass** - Burleigh Waters

Wednesday, 2 August

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

Thursday, 3 August

7.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads
5.15pm **Mass** - Mudgeeraba

Friday, 4 August

9.00am **Mass** - Robina Hospital
12 noon **Mass** - Burleigh Waters

Saturday, 5 August

8.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads
5.00pm Sacrament of Penance - Palm Beach
5.15pm Sacrament of Penance - Burleigh Heads

Saturday, 5 August

The Transfiguration of the Lord

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

SUNDAY, 6 August

The Transfiguration of the Lord

7.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Heads
7.00am **Mass** - Palm Beach
8.30am **Mass** - Miami
8.30am **Mass** - Mudgeeraba
10.00am **Mass** - Burleigh Waters
5.30pm **Mass** - Burleigh Waters

MASS TIMES are available on our Website -
www.burleighheadscatholic.com.au/Masstimes

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION:

We welcome our visitors and ask all to respect the Universal Church practice of receiving the Lord's Body and Blood: the Body of Christ is received on the hand or the tongue and the Blood of Christ is received by drinking from the chalice. We kindly ask you to refrain from dipping the host into the chalice if this is your custom.

Parish Newsletters – please take one home – and spread the good news. Our newsletter each week has regular contact information, weekly news and activities, and items from our many parish ministries. This is information that may be of interest not only to you – but to others in your weekly circle of contact. Please take at least one with you to your home for reference through the week or passing on to someone else. We have to go out into our communities with our good news and spread the word. You can reach out in a small way by not placing your bulletin back after Mass – but taking it home and giving it to one other person who may be housebound or ill.

“IT TAKES A WHOLE COMMUNITY” is the theme for the Archdiocese of Brisbane Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults – prevention and protection policy.

“.....for it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs” Mark 10:14. Children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured nurtured and safeguarded.

The Archdiocesan policy requires that all employees and volunteers including all persons holding keys to Archdiocesan properties are aware, trained and participating actively in the implementation of the policy. This will involve all volunteers to register with the Parish and to hold Blue Cards and in some ministries to pass police checks. There will be training and updates available and it is expected that Parish Registration Forms will be available through August.

What's in a Name? - Part of being a welcoming Parish is knowing others in our many community ministries in our Parish. Burleigh Heads Catholic Parish name badges are available to all involved in our many parish ministries. It is now a few years since we last ordered name badges for our volunteers. List will be available in each of our Churches for you to add your name, if you would like a name badge or need a new badge. It is also very useful to have a badge that identifies you at wider church gatherings.

The Language of Heaven

Fr Michael Tate

Have you ever seen on TV those huge rubbish tips that exist on the edge of great cities in South America, Asia and Africa? The shanty town dwellers and the poor constantly pick over the tips to salvage what they can.

A pall of smoke hovers over such tips which are often generations old, so there is not a time when fire is not doing its destructive work.

In Our Lord's time, there was such a tip in a small ravine only a short distance from the Temple Mount of Jerusalem. It had been smouldering and burning in this way for centuries. It was a particularly terrible place called the Valley of Gehenna.

That is an image which Jesus used when speaking about Hell. Jesus taught that we can by our choices and actions end up in a state of endless suffering like being trapped in ever smouldering rubbish tips. That would be Hell.

We must remember it is an image or metaphor – but especially powerful. It has a real hold on our imagination: the stuff of paintings and sermons: 'souls burning in hell', (but of course the soul is not material – so cannot 'burn' in any literal sense).

Let us try another image.

Have any of you travelled to a foreign

country and been unable to communicate – can't speak the language – don't understand the customs and culture of the people? It is not only frustrating but you feel less human. In the midst of other people you feel a terrible loneliness, a-lone-ness. There is lots of weeping and gnashing of teeth in frustration.

Now, what if you were born with a good ear for languages, knew you had the opportunity to go to that other place, but had deliberately never learnt the language of that other place, had deliberately done things which made you a person who could not reach out the hand of friendship to the people of that place? You would only have yourself to blame if you were suddenly transported and marooned there. It would be a living hell.

That is what happens at death. Your soul is suddenly transported to a different dimension of existence, and it can be either heavenly or hellish depending on the choices and actions of a lifetime.

So, our lifetime project is to 'learn the language of heaven' otherwise we will end up mute, speechless, at the crucial moment. Of course, God is merciful. At death, God can take the stutters and the stammers and the half-sentences and coach us and tutor us out of our self-

centredness and bring us to the ability to wholeheartedly converse with God and others.

This is what Catholics call 'Purgatory', the purging of self-ish-ness.

But, there is the very real danger that, at death, we may have rendered ourselves totally incommunicado, unable to benefit from the saving grace of purgatory.

So, we must try, now, to learn the language of Heaven.

How can we learn the language of Heaven?

First, by following the story of Jesus. After all, Jesus is the Word of God, the perfect conversation between humanity and God. We can try to translate his story into our own lives.

Secondly, we can observe those who seem to love unreservedly, ranging from Mother Teresa to a person you may know quite well.

Thirdly, when the opportunity comes, move out of self-centredness, especially as Pope Francis says, by touching the wounds of Christ in others.

So let us move from incommunicado to communion by learning and practising the language of Heaven. There is only one lifetime to do it.

ANTIPHONAL GROUP PRAYER FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

A: At the sight of the crowds Jesus' heart was moved

B: For they were like sheep without a shepherd

A: Jesus said, "The harvest is ready"

B: "But the labourers are few"

A: Ask the Lord to send out labourers for the harvest

B: O Lord we pray that young men will answer the call to become priests in your harvest

A: And shepherds for your people.

All: Amen.

**VOCATION BRISBANE - Cathedral House, 229 Elizabeth St (GPO Box 282)
1300 133544 : vocation@bne.catholic.net.au**



Parish News and Happenings

- **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM** - Welcoming enrolments for the **Burleigh Heads Sacramental Program**, for families wishing to celebrate the **Sacrament of Confirmation**. Registrations will be open until the end of business Tuesday 1st August, 2017 for children to participate in a process of preparation to celebrate **Confirmation in November** this year. Registrations received after the cut-off date will be held over until next year. **Parents with baptised children aged eight years (in Year 3) or older are invited to enrol their children via the Parish Office.** Thank you to those families who have already completed registration forms. A calendar of dates will be forwarded in August. Please do not hesitate to contact me in the Parish Office or by email, should you have any queries. I am currently available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, sc.burleigh@bne.catholic.net.au
Blessings, Angela Williams
- **PARISH WOMEN'S DINNER** - Monday 31 July, 6pm, Burleigh Sports Club, Christine Av. Good food, reasonable prices, friendly company. All ladies in our parish, including visitors, welcome. Club courtesy bus within 5kms (book bus through Club on 5576 3177.) Further information ring Margaret 5520 0186.
- The **FIRST THURSDAY LUNCH GROUP** will meet again on 3 August at the Burleigh Sports Club, 111 Christine Av, at 12 noon. Ladies, for a friendly get-together, "get to know you" gathering, please join us. Enquiries Margaret 5535 8714.
- **BURLEIGH HEADS PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION GROUP** - for those interested in Social Justice issues. Sunday 6 August at Mary, Mother of Mercy Church. Meeting will be held in Parish Office Boardroom at 11am, after the 10am Mass. An up to date report on the Burleigh Heads -Ossu, East Timor Parish project and the implementing of St Teresinha's Junior High School Stage 2; Plans for an Adult Immersion visit to Timor Leste in 2018; Suggestions for ways to sell Timor craft items. If you are concerned about social justice issues, please come along. For more information and to indicate your attendance on 6 August phone Sue and Bren Milsom 0409 718139 or milsoms@outlook.com
- **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** A weekend away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings - away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out of your busy schedule to invest in your most precious asset - your marriage. This is a unique opportunity to recharge your relationship batteries, refocus on each other and fall in love all over again. Next weekend will be 4 - 6 August at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston. For bookings/details contact Maria and David Murphy 3342 1456, dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au
Information www.wwme.org.au

- **YOUTH MASS** - Theme: **ABOVE ALL** - Sunday 6 August, 5.30pm, Mary, Mother of Mercy Church, followed by games, music and food. Singers and musicians, please meet at 4.30pm.
- **PARISH PROFILE** as per *Catholic Life* News Edition 21 is Stephen Murray, St Benedict's local community member.
- **MEDITATION and ECO-SPIRITUALITY - Reflection Day** - Saturday 16 September - A time to appreciate meditation and all contemplative practice as nurturing awareness of our interconnectedness within the vast story of the whole creation. All welcome. 10am - 2.30pm, Parish Hospitality Centre, 50 Fairway Dr, Clear Island Waters. Morning tea provided. BYO lunch. Donation \$5 (optional). Bookings Bernadette.stewart2@bigpond.com Phone 5520 7242 or Paul 5593 3794.
- **THE CATHOLIC LEADER** - Hundreds of students gather at St Stephen's Cathedral for Catholic Education Week Mass ... Archbishop responds to ABC over what he describes as 'antagonistic, one-sided narrative' ... Brisbane Catholics making the world of difference for visiting seafarers.
- St Ignatius Parish Toowong's Annual **WOMEN'S NIGHT OF SPIRITUALITY** - Tuesday 5 September at 7.30pm, Stuartholme School Chapel. St Ignatius Parish is very pleased to be able to continue to hold this annual event as a legacy of the work of Fr Peter Quin sj. More details will follow soon.
- **YOUR VOCATION CAN PROVIDE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS TO GLOBAL POVERTY** - Catholic Bishops in Timor Leste are seeking mentors to help build on the strengths of their personnel in dioceses, schools, clinics. Palms Australia will help you get there. If you first need an insight into the life and work of Palms volunteers you can join a 13-day cross-cultural Encounter experience starting on 24 September. The Encounter will also provide an insight into the daily life of Timorese culture and an understanding of sustainable approaches to development. Call Roger on 02 95605333 or email palms@palms.org.au
- **CRAZY WHIST** - If you enjoy a friendly game of cards, Crazy Whist is played in the Infant Saviour meeting room on Tuesdays at 9.15am. All welcome.
- **CHRISTIAN MEDITATION** - Thursdays, 6pm, Infant Saviour meeting room. Further information Paul 5593 3794.

BAPTISMS

We welcome to our faith community Violet, Charlie, Lyatt, Lucas and Finn who were baptised last week.

SICK & SPECIAL NEEDS

Your prayers have been requested for Michael Allan, Patricia Ashton, Taylor Austin, Glenys Bailey, Demosthenes Baldovino, Leigh Boulcher, Bruce Brew, Sylvia Brewer, Jacob Burgstaller, Lily Burgstaller, James Burke, Deborah Campani, Ben Clarke, Carmel Clifford, Maryanne Condon, John Costigan, Chris Curran, Joan Dale, Graham Dall, Edna Devlin, Joseph Dick, Patricia Dowling, Norma Evans, Fr Des Fitzgerald, Mary-Rose Fitzgerald, Des Fox, Paris Freese, Lance Fry, Annette Gilbert, Norma Greenland, Geromy Grima, Fred Grioli, Viviane Haddad, Robert Harvey, Vera Havlik, Cheryl Hingerty, Jean Hokin, Lucy Holland, Patricia Holmes, Angelika Huber, Harry Hunter, Norman Ingle, Sydney Jones, Annette Kassulke, Margaret Kennedy, Jayce Kilfoy, Paul Mason, Tina Mass, Denis McNery, Anne McInnes, Patrick McMahon, Peter McMurray, John Mooney, June Newdick, Mary Nutter, Mary O'Brien, Sr Annette O'Connor, Dianne O'Connor, Paul O'Connor, Eileen O'Neill, Phil O'Neill, Michael Onn, Sean O'Reilly, Maureen O'Sullivan, Noel O'Sullivan, Anne Owens, Lucky Papas, Joan Parker, Mike Parker, Anna Pereira, Phyllis Pola, Danny Ricciuti, Peter Reid, Lance Robinson, Reg Rowan, Dennis Samson, William Sheehan, Max Smales, Pacing Soriano, Isaac Stafrace, Andrew Supple, Carmel Taylor, Dean Taylor, Lisa Taylor, Fr Keith Teefey, Nemcio Toledo, Sarra Tyler, Lena and Frank Usaj, Gerald Vanrongen, John Walker, Marie Walker, Norma Ward, Sylvia Wesley, 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: Lea Dunlea, John David Morris, John Frank Morris, Allan Summerville, Gordon Grams, Gloria Dawson, Julian Fabris, Coral Wilkie.

*May the choirs of angels come to greet you ...
May you find eternal life.*

PLANNED GIVING LAST WEEK - ☺

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

Planned Giving roster this week: Miami

Liturgical Music for Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

INTRODUCTORY RITES:

Gathering:

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God's righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

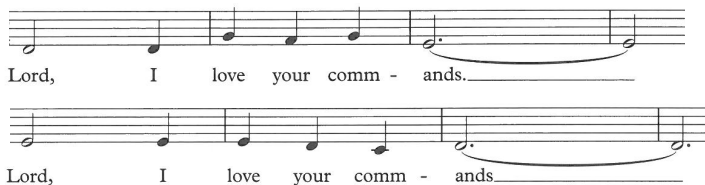
Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and ye shall find;
knock and it shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia.

Where two or three are gathered in my name,
there am I in their midst;
and what-so-ever ye ask, I will do.
Allelu, alleluia.

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LITURGY OF THE WORD:

Psalm Response:



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LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST:

Acclamation:

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

A VOCATION VIEW

Finding our vocation in life is like finding a buried treasure.
We will do whatever we have to in order to be able to possess it.
Finding the treasure is a gift, possessing it is our vocation.

Vocation Office: 1300 133 544
vocation@bne.catholic.net.au
www.bne.catholic.net.au/vocations



LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST:

Communion:

The Beatitudes

Blessed are the poor in spirit
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven,
blessed are the gentle
for they shall possess the land.

Blessed are they, that hunger and
thirst after justice.
Blessed are they that suffer gladly for justice' sake.

Blessed are they that mourn
for they shall be comforted,
blessed are the clean of heart
for they shall see God.

Blessed are you when they revile and harm you,
and speak all evil against you untruly for my sake.

Blessed are the merciful
for mercy they will find,
blessed are the peacemakers
for they shall be called God's children.

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CONCLUDING RITES

Dismissal:

City Of God

Awake from your slumber. Arise from your sleep.
A new day is dawning for all those who weep.
The people in darkness have seen a great light.
The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

*Let us build the city of God.
May our tears be turned into dancing.
For the Lord, our light and our love,
has turned the night into day.*

We are sons of the morning;
we are daughters of day.
The one who has loved us has brightened our way.
The Lord of all kindness has called us to be
a light for his people to set their hearts free.

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Next week's readings: Dan 7:9-10,13-14; 2 Pet 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

Care & Concern 5576 6318
C W L 5535 8487
Choir 5520 2591
Christian Meditation 5593 3794
Family Groups 0412 606492
Ladies' Dinner 5576 2623
Ladies' Lunch 5576 2623
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 5561 4702
TEAMS Married Couples 5522 4880
Youth 0430 960802