CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
PINE RIVERS
102 SPARKES RD, BRAY PARK Q 4500
(07) 3205 1493 - BRAYPARK@BNE.CATHOLIC.NET.AU
HTTPS://HOLYSPIRITBRAYPARK.COM
OFFICE HOURS - MON-FRI 9AM - 4:00PM

PARISH PRIEST
Fr Chinua Okeke, C.S.Sp
okekec@bne.catholic.net.au

ASSOCIATE PASTOR
Fr Vincent Elimah C.S.Sp
elimahv@bne.catholic.net.au

SPIRITAN CONGREGATIONAL LEADER
Fr Edward Khaemba C.S.Sp
oceaniacssp@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARIES
Alexandra Lindstrom (Finance)
Giuliano Silvestro (Admin)

SUNDAY MASS TIMES
Sat 6:00pm (Sunday Vigil)
Sun 7:00am, 9:00am
Sun 11am (Syriac)
Sun 5:00pm (during Advent & Lent)

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES
Mon 7:00am; Tue 7:30pm;
Wed 7:00am;
Thu 9:00am (8am on school holidays)
Fri 7:00am & 7:30pm (1st Friday)
Sat 8:00 am

HEALING MASS (ANOINTING OF THE SICK)
2nd Friday of the month at 7.00am

ADORATION AND BENEDICTION
Every Wednesday after the 7am Mass until Thursday 8:30am & 1st Friday of the month – 8:15pm until 7:30am Saturday morning

BAPTISMS
1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays of the Month.

RECONCILIATION
Wednesday 8:45am; Saturday 8.30am and 5.15pm; 1st Friday of each month 8:15pm

HOLY MATRIMONY & RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION) FOR ADULTS
Please contact the Parish Office

ROSARY
After weekday mass; before mass on last Friday of the month, and on Saturdays.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL
Chair – Matthew Dahms
Secretary – Patrick Collins
braypark@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL
Chair – John Thomas
Secretary – Sabrina Menezes

LITURGICAL COMMITTEE
Chair – Dawn Penna,
Secretary - Marian Brooks

29th November 2026 - First Sunday of Advent Year B



Today we begin Advent, a new liturgical season and a new year in the Church's calendar. Advent is a season of waiting, hope, preparation and spiritual renewal. It prepares us to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas, while also reminding us to remain ready for His glorious return.

The Gospel gives us a simple but powerful instruction from Jesus: Stay awake!

He tells the disciples that they do not know when the master of the house will return. Therefore, they must remain watchful. This message is not meant to make us afraid. It is meant to make us spiritually responsible.

Think about how we prepare for important events in our lives. When we expect visitors, we clean our homes. When we have an interview, we prepare ourselves. When we have an examination, we study. When we are expecting a child, we make arrangements. But how much attention do we give to preparing our hearts for Christ?

Advent asks us to look beyond the decorations, shopping, celebrations and Christmas plans. It invites us to prepare the inner person. The first reading from Isaiah expresses the cry of a people longing for God to come close. The prophet acknowledges human weakness and pleads for God to intervene.

This is a beautiful prayer for anyone who recognises that they need God's help. Sometimes we become aware of how far we have drifted. We realise that our prayer life has weakened, our patience has reduced, our relationships need healing or our priorities have become disordered. Advent tells us that we can return.

We do not have to pretend that everything is perfect before approaching God. We come with our weaknesses, our questions, our regrets and our desire to begin again.

The psalm is a cry for restoration: "Lord, make us turn to You; let us see Your face and we shall be saved." Notice that restoration begins with turning towards God. Perhaps this season is an opportunity to turn away from habits that have been damaging your peace. Perhaps it is time to return to prayer, make peace with someone, practise generosity or become more intentional about your spiritual growth.

The second reading gives us another beautiful assurance. St Paul thanks God for the grace given to the Christian community and reminds them that God is faithful. What a comforting truth as we begin a new liturgical year!

Our confidence is not in our ability to manage everything perfectly. Our confidence is in God's faithfulness. The Gospel's call to watchfulness also challenges us to stop postponing the good we know we should do. Do not postpone forgiveness until Christmas. Do not postpone prayer until life becomes easier. Do not postpone serving others until you have more money. Do not postpone changing a destructive habit until another year begins.

Begin now. Advent is not simply about counting down the days to Christmas. It is about allowing Christ to find a welcoming place in our hearts. As we light the first candle of the Advent wreath, let it remind us that even in darkness, hope is alive. May this season find us awake in faith, generous in love, sincere in repentance and ready to welcome Jesus

.Fr Vincent Elimah CSSp

Safeguarding Commitment

Holy Spirit Parish has zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in our activities, ministries and services.
Parish Safeguarding Representatives:
lsr.braypark@bne.catholic.net.au
Office for Safeguarding Services: 07 3324 3752
STOPline: 1300 304 550 · Emergency: 000

SUNDAY READINGS

(Sunday readings are also on our Parish Website)

FIRST READING Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8 (JB)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (JB)

R. Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (JB)

GOSPEL *Mark 13:33-37 (NAB)*

Jesus said to his disciples:
"Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when the time will come.
It is like a man traveling abroad.
He leaves home and places his servants in charge,
each with his own work,
and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.
Watch, therefore;
you do not know when the lord of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning.
May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.
What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

Mass Intentions

Sat 28th	8.00am	Jaime Guerarra (Recently Deceased)
		Abin Philip (4th Anniversary RIP)
	6:00pm	Nana Straker & Grandad Smith
Sun 29th	7.00am	Henry Kwan (RIP)
		Alfredo Ventura (1st RIP Anniv)
	9.00am	Laurence David & Melville David (RIP)
		Jeremy Smith (RIP)
		Kathleen Gordon (RIP)
	5:00pm	
Mon 30th	7.00am	
Tue 1st	7.00am	Rosie & Pop Straker (Special Int.)
Wed 2nd	7.00am	Intentions of The Legion of Mary
		Ester Malgapo (Thanksgiving)
Thu 3rd	9.00am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Fri 4th	7.00am	The Holy Soul of Manuel Cabungcal & departed souls of the Cabungcal families
	7:30pm	
Sat 5th	8.00am	Taron (Special Intention)

Upcoming Events

Nov 29th	First Sunday of Advent
Nov 30th	St Andrew
Dec 1st	Year 6 Graduation 6.00pm (Please note that Parish Mass will be at 7am on this day as it is Tuesday)
Dec 6th	Second Sunday of Advent Children's Christmas Party after the 9am Mass
Dec 8th	Immaculate Conception. Masses 7am and 7.30pm. Hour of Grace 11:45am
Dec 11th	Healing Mass 7.00am
Dec 13th	Third Sunday of Advent
Dec 14th	Parish Advent Retreat 14th–16th, 7.00 – 8.30pm, Holy Spirit Church
Dec 18th	Christmas Reconciliation 7.30pm
Dec 20th	Fourth Sunday of Advent (last Sunday 5.00pm Mass)
Dec 24th	Christmas Eve Carols 5.30pm, Family Mass 6.00pm Aramaic Mass 8.30pm Carols 11.30pm, Midnight Mass 12.00am
Dec 25th	Christmas Day Masses 7.00am & 9.00am, Aramaic Mass 11.00am Parish Office closes for the Christmas break
Dec 26th	St Stephen – Mass 8.00am
Dec 27th	Holy Family – normal Sunday Mass times
Dec 31st	Mass for World Peace and End of the Year 7.30pm, followed by all-night Adoration until 8.30am
Jan 1st	Mary, Mother of God – Mass 7.00am

CHANGE OF MASS TIME THIS TUESDAY

Due to the Year 6 Graduation being held in the Church as 6.00pm, our Tuesday mass will be at 7.00am instead of the usual 7.30pm.

CHANGE OF THURSDAY MASS TIMES

During school holidays, Mass on Thursdays will be held at 8am, instead of the usual 9am. This change will occur from December 10th until January 28th 2027.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PLAY

After the joy of last year's Nativity Play, we're getting ready to do it again this Christmas! Children of all ages are invited. Parents are also welcome to help with costumes and props. To register your interest, please add their name, age and a contact number to the sign-up sheet at the back of the church, or call the Parish Office on (07) 3205 1493.

CHRISTMAS MASS VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for any Readers, Special Ministers, Altar Servers, and Data Projector Operators who are available for the Christmas Masses. Please write your name and contact details against your preferred time on the sheets in the Sacristy.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Our Appeal will start next weekend and will continue until Christmas Eve. We will leave envelopes and a collection box at the back of the Church, and if you need a receipt, please write your name and address on the envelope.

There are many families in our local area struggling financially, and your donation will help make Christmas a happier time for them. **ALL** money donated is used in Bray Park, Lawnton, Strathpine and Joyner.

So far this year we have provided food and financial assistance to about 800 people (adults and children) in our local area. Thank you for your continued support, From all at SVDP Holy Spirit Pine Rivers.

PIETY STORE – EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

The parish is seeking expressions of interest from any parish group or individual parishioners willing to run the Piety Store on behalf of the parish. If you would like to help with this ministry or would like to know more about what is involved, please contact the Parish Office on (07) 3205 1493 or braypark@bne.catholic.net.au.



COLUMBAN CALENDAR FOR 2027 NOW AVAILABLE The Columban Calendars for 2027 are now available from the Piety Store for $11.00.



SVDP CHRISTMAS CARDS St Vincent De Paul Christmas Cards are available at the Piety Store: A packet of 5 cards for $2.50.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR – ALL WELCOME!

All children are warmly invited to join our Children's Choir for the **9am Children's Mass on Sunday, 6th December**.

Come along to our practice session on **Saturday 5th December at 2:30pm** in the Church.

No experience is needed – come along, make new friends and enjoy singing together!

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION AND HOUR OF GRACE



In observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, you are invited to join us in prayer on Monday, the 8th of December. We will observe the traditional Hour of Grace from 12 Noon until 1pm in the afternoon. This holy hour will include the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The day's liturgical schedule is as follows:

Holy Mass: 7:00 AM & 7:30 PM

Hour of Grace with Exposition: 11:45AM

SEASON OF ADVENT SUNDAY 5PM MASS



During the season of Advent, in addition to our Sunday 7am and 9am Masses, there will be a 5pm Sunday evening Mass. This will begin on the First Sunday of Advent, 29 November, and continue until the Fourth Sunday of Advent, 20 December. All are welcome.

THREE-DAY PARISH ADVENT RETREAT

Mon 14 – Wed 16 December, 7:00 – 8:30pm, Holy Spirit Church

As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, all are warmly invited to our parish Advent Retreat, led by our Associate Pastor, **Fr Vincent Elimah C.S.Sp**.

Day 1 (Mon): *Jesus Christ the Fulfiller of Old Testament Prophecies* – Talk and Eucharistic Celebration.

Day 2 (Tue): *Christmas as a Time of Peace, Joy, Hope and Love* – Talk, Exposition, Rosary (Joyful Mysteries) and Benediction.

Day 3 (Wed): *Saying Yes to Divine Will* – Talk, Rosary and Faith Sharing.

Please note: there will be no 7:30pm Mass on Tuesday 15th December. The retreat evening replaces it.

Come for one evening or all three. Bring a friend, and give yourself the gift of time with the Lord this Advent.

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH FAMILY CHRISTMAS TREE – ANGEL TAGS

Christmas is almost upon us and once again you are all invited to participate in the Holy Spirit Parish family Christmas tree by writing your names on the supplied tags at the back of the church and placing them in the Christmas box which is also located at the back of the church. The tags with parishioners' names written on them will then be hung on the Christmas tree from the beginning of December. The names will be blessed at the 6.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve.



In order to give everyone a chance to take part in this celebration we would ask that you use one tag per family.

As in all families this is a time to also remember those family members who are no longer with us but who will always be cherished. As a way of remembering those parishioners who have gone to their eternal rest or who due to ill health or frailty can no longer celebrate Mass with us you are also invited to fill out a tag for them.

Let us all celebrate Christmas as one Parish family.

***We pray for all of our sick parishioners and those who we have been asked to pray for, especially*:**
Kim Krech, Ray Power, Barry Sattler, Fr Paul Walsh, Darren Searle, David Lowe, Colette Cherval, Wyatt Joseph George, Ree, Max Neehouse, Jon Quinn, Karen Bryant, Suzanne Connor, Eddie & Silvia Perazzoli, Bryan Doyle, Carolyn Tanner, Vincent Stufano and family, Sr Lina Vaschina, Anna Maria Vaschina, Christina Grace Hambling, People in Nursing Homes.

We Remember

Theresa Paulic, Margaret Davison, Marie Simon, Richard Ryan, Luisito Sunpayco, Peter Adler, Judith Coutts, Kathleen Mulheran, John McCullagh



Alliance Building & Hazmat Group
Liam Cook
0403 126 276
Licensed asbestos removal, roof leaks & storm damage, mould remediation and building repairs — one contractor from hazard to finished repair.
https://alliancegroups.com.au
License No#2331898 | Class A & B Asbestos Endorsements



Adds and Alts Electrical
For smoke detectors, safety switches, ceiling fans, downlights, powerpoints, tv and data points
Call Dale on 0488 744 488
No Callout Fee for Parishioners
Your Local Electrician
Electrical Lic. 87487



Tae Kwon Do classes held at Holy Spirit School every Wednesday afternoon. All ages welcome. Established since 1988. Please call Damian or Daisy on 0438 860 967 for more information.

Roster for this Sunday – First Sunday of Advent 28th/29th November (5th Sunday of the Month)			
	6pm Saturday	**7am Sunday**	**9am Sunday**
Readers	Sherine Tobias Bob Bannan	Regina Fong Mary Samson	Alfonso De La Cruz Andrew Gray
Special Ministers	**Sacristan Yanery Ventura** **Carleen Augustus,** **Tony Martin**	**Sacristan Lito De La Vega** **Laurie Conlon, Vicki Norris,** **Marie Hird**	**Sacristan Bryan Irvine** **Alvin Cubillan, Joyce Cubillan,** **Veronica Topindik, Pele Pese,** **Susan Lu**
Altar Servers	Dylan Marsh Faith D'Souza		Ryan David
Data Projection	Michael Heyne	Paul Ferris	
Music		Emmanuel Choir	PNG Community Choir
Hospitality			Young Adults