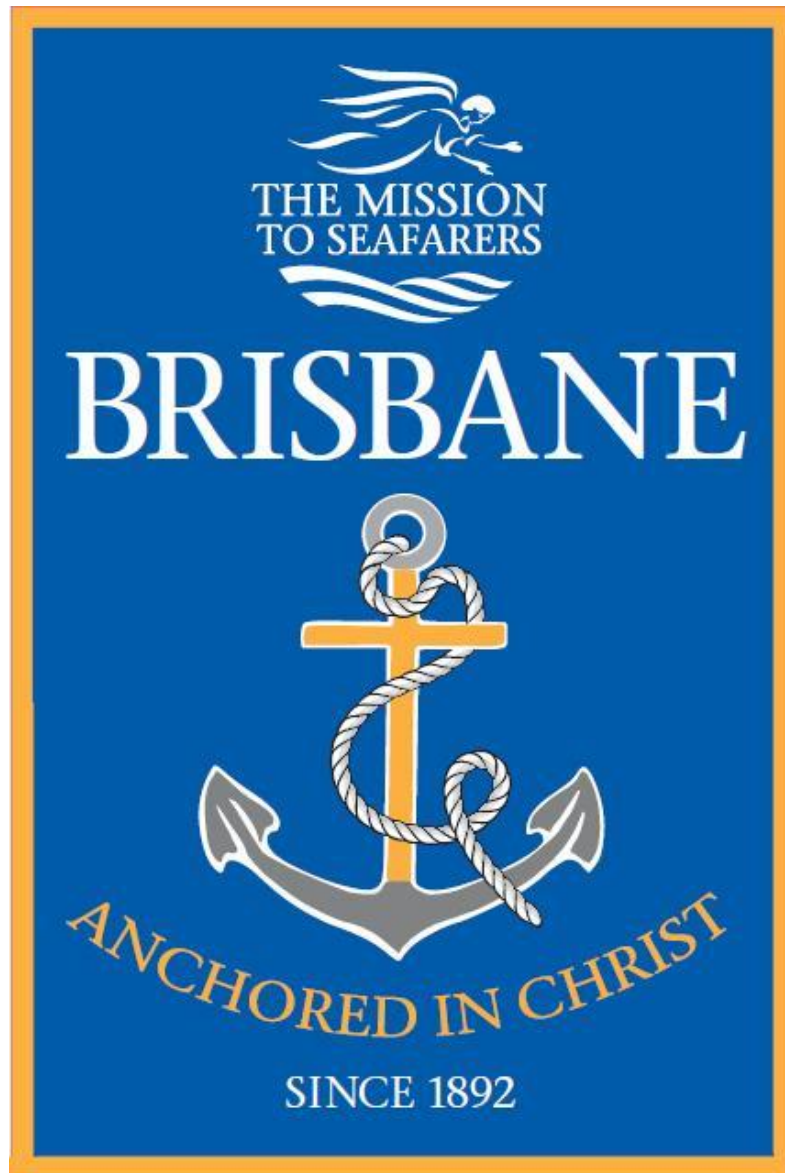


SEA SUNDAY SERVICE



Caring for Seafarers Around the World

Recalling the Endeavours, Achievements and Sacrifice of men and women of the Royal Australian Navy and the Merchant Navy

**Sunday 30th August 2020
At 15.00**

Welcome: *The Reverend Ian McGilvray, Honorary Chaplain to the Mission to Seafarers, Brisbane*

We have come to ask for gracious God's blessing on all who go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business on great waters. We also ask a blessing on the Port of Brisbane and its personnel in all their doings, afloat and ashore.

Prayer

Our Father, as we gather here this afternoon to give thanks and praise to you for the beauty of the earth and the mighty waters that surround our land. May we be responsible for the just and proper use of your creation. Like the psalmist of old we cry out to you and pray for the protection of those who go down to the sea in ships and for those who wait for them at home. In your holy Name we pray. **Amen**

Confession:

Our Lord Jesus Christ said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first and great commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

So let us join together in this prayer of general confession.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed: we have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us. Strengthen us to love and obey You in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to You in faith, pardon us and set us free from all our sins, strengthen us to do Your will, and keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Before David and Rob bring us our readings let us say this prayer of preparation

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the truth of Your Word. We thank you that we can read and study it without fear of persecution. Please speak to us through it this day. Grant that we will hunger for knowledge and understanding, and trust Your Word for guidance to live for you each day. Amen

First Reading: Read by Davis Beckinsale from 2 Timothy Chapter 2 beginning at the first verse.

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal. But the word of God is not bound! Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. The saying is trustworthy, for:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he also will deny us;

if we are faithless, he remains faithful—

for he cannot deny himself.

A Worker Approved by God

Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into

The Sailors Psalm 107 vs 23 – 32 David Beckinsale

*Some went down to the sea in ships, doing their trade on great waters;
these men have seen the works of God and His wonders in the deep
For He commanded and raised the stormy wind,
which lifted up the waves of the sea.*

*They mounted up to heaven, they went down into the depths;
their courage melted away in their calamity;
they reeled and staggered like drunken men,
and were at their wits end.*

*Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and He delivered them from their distress;
He made the storm be still, and the waves of the sea were hushed.*

*Then they were glad because they had quiet,
and He brought them to their desired haven.*

*Let them thank the Lord for His goodness:
and for the wonders He does for the children of men;*

*Let them exalt Him in the assembly of the people:
and praise Him in the council of elders.*

The Third Reading: *Read by Rob Clark from Acts Chapter 27 verses 1-2
and verses 37-44.*

And when it was decided that we should sail for Italy, they delivered Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan Cohort named Julius. And embarking in a ship of Adramyttium, which was about to sail to the ports along the coast of Asia, we put to sea, accompanied by Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica.

(We were in all 276 persons in the ship.) And when they had eaten enough, they lightened the ship, throwing out the wheat into the sea. Now when it was day, they did not recognize the land, but they noticed a bay with a beach, on which they planned if possible to run the ship ashore. So they cast off the anchors and left them in the sea, at the same time loosening the ropes that tied the rudders. Then hoisting the foresail to the wind they made for the beach. But striking a reef, they ran the vessel aground. The bow stuck and remained immovable, and the stern was being broken up by the surf. The soldiers' plan was to kill the prisoners, lest any should swim away and escape. But the centurion, wishing to save Paul, kept them from carrying out their plan. He ordered those who could swim to jump overboard first and make for the land, and the rest on planks or on pieces of the ship. And so it was that all were brought safely to land.

Reflection The Reverend Stephen Briggs , Naval Chaplain South Queensland and Honorary Chaplain Mission to Seafarers, Brisbane

Prayers of Intercession:

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ has promised that you will hear us when we ask in faith; receive the prayers we offer.

For Seafarers

Eternal Lord God, You alone spread out the heavens and rule the raging of the Sea;

We pray for all those who go down to the sea in ships and follow their trade in great waters. Grant them your strength and protection as they face the dangers of their calling and keep them in the hour of special need. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

For Families

Lord our God, you have given us as an example, the life of Jesus in His home. Grant that all Christian families may be so bound together in love and service that we may rejoice together in Your heavenly home. Lord we especially

commend into Your care the spouses, children and families of seafarers who may be facing loneliness and anxiety about loved ones at sea. May they know your comfort and peace during these times. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

For the shipping industry

Almighty God, bless all who work in shipping, those who build, own, manage and operate ships. Give them generous hearts, thoughtful minds and caring hands. Grant to all who work at sea the blessings of safe ships, good food and just rewards for all their work and separation from those they love. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

For the Mission to Seafarers

Lord God, in whose image and likeness we are made, we bless your name for all who care for seafarers. We thank you for those who established this work and pray for all who support it now. Give them and us the strength to persevere and not to rest until we have done your will in joy and faithfulness. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

For each other

Almighty and ever-loving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this our Mission. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. We look to you to provide all things necessary to maintain this Mission into the future.

Lord, you love each one of us. Help us to rest and rejoice in that love. Help us to want to share that love and joy with all whom we meet today. Through Jesus Christ who lived, died and rose again in love for all people. Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

As our Lord has taught us we are confident to pray together.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

Before we close we pause to remember and honour those members of the Merchant Navy, The Royal Australian Navy and allied navies who have paid the supreme sacrifice while carrying out their duties at sea.

This time of Commemoration *led by Captain Ross Nicholls, President of The Mission to Seafarers, Brisbane*

Jesus said, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends". *John 15:13*

Please stand

THE SAILOR'S ODE -

They have no grave but the cruel sea
No flowers lay at their head.
A rusting hulk is their tombstone
Afast on the ocean bed.
They shall not grow old
As we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.
We will remember them.

Lest we forget!
Lest we forget!

The Benediction: *The Reverend Ian McGilvray*

As we go out into the world this week may we take courage from these words of Paul to the Romans 8: 35-37

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.



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BRISBANE SEAFARERS CENTRE Open: 10am to 10pm Every Day of the Year

Member of The International Christian Maritime Association

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