



St Brigid's Marrickville

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, Australia

One Family, Alive in Christ

Est 1886. Under the Pastoral Care of the Passionists since 1887

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FaceBook: St Brigid's Marrickville (Now 1,186 likes)

Parish Priest: Fr Tim O'Toole CP (pp@stbrigid.org.au)

Fr Erick Niyiragira CP (erick@stbrigid.org.au)

Sr Elena Daton CP (elena@stbrigid.org.au)

Sr Elenita Flores CP (elenita@stbrigid.org.au),

Sue King (SRE Co-ordinator) catechetics@stbrigid.org.au

Parish Secretary: Ms Terrey Trethowan (9.30am - 4pm)

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

Sunday 15 Year A 15/16 July 2017

TRACES OF GOD EVERYWHERE

Our gospel today contains a complaint, a serious complaint. It's aimed at us, at you and me. Jesus is telling us that God's word is often unfruitful, unproductive in our lives. It gets trampled underfoot, it dries up, it gets choked, or it doesn't grow at all. It simply makes no difference.

We fail to see the signs of his presence which God puts into our lives. We do not see, hear, feel, touch or recognise them. Because they pass us by, they cannot therefore make us any better.

It's deeply disappointing to the heart of God when we fail to recognise the traces of his presence and the traces of his messages. It's far more disappointing than when we either ignore our fellow human beings or fail to notice them.

A young man had a misunderstanding with his girlfriend, a very serious one. He tried to phone her, but when he heard her voice he did not know what to say. So he hung up. He tried to write her a letter. But when he finished it, it sounded silly. So he tore it up. Then he remembered that she liked roses, deep red roses. He bought her one, only one, because roses were very expensive at that time of year. The woman in the flower-shop added some ferns to the rose and wrapped it for him in nice tissue paper.

The young man went to his girlfriend's flat. He put the rose down in front of her door. He then hid round a corner, and waited for her to come home. Right on time she arrived from work, looking as lovely as ever. His heart leaped in his throat, and suddenly his mouth went dry. He watched as she opened her purse, took out her key, nudged the door open, stepped inside and closed it behind her. But she did not bend down to pick up his beautiful expensive rose. In

fact she did not seem to even notice it. What a disappointment! What a let-down! What a missed opportunity! What a heart-break! What a tragedy!

Every day of our lives God gives us signs, trying to get our attention. It might take the form of a flower, a thought, a feeling, a dream, a child, a news story, a chance meeting, a friend's remark, some pangs of pain or even of guilt. God has all sorts of wake-up calls. God may speak to us in sunshine, in rain, on a beach, on a mountain, by a river. God may have something to say to us in a play or a movie, a song or a piece of music. God may speak to us in Readings at Mass and in the homily about them. It's quite likely that God will speak to us in the richness of a loving relationship. As the last song in *Les Miserables*, the Musicales puts it, 'to love another person is to see the face of God'.

The messages of God are so many and so different that the poet, Gerard Manley Hopkins, makes the claim: 'The world is charged with the grandeur of God'. But how often do we notice? How often do we see, hear or feel God speaking to us? And if we do, how often do we stop and say back: 'Hello, God! Thank you, God! What would you like me to do, God? Will you help me, God?'



I wonder if all too often we tend to live 'like those who have eyes but do not see, like those who have ears but do not hear'. Not only as far as God is concerned, but also with the people around us. We may be more like the first man, not the second, in the famous quip: 'Two men looked out from prison bars; one saw mud, the other saw stars' (Frederick Langbridge)

Today, as our response to the gospel message of Jesus, let's ask ourselves a few matter-of-fact questions: -

Do we believe that God speaks to us through a series of signs – e.g., through other people? Through things that

Calendar

JULY 2017

- 15/16 **Sunday 15 Year A**
Catholic Mission Appeal
 Baptisms: 12 noon
 Term 3 commences
- 22/23 **Sunday 16 Year A**
Marriage Sunday
Bible Sunday
 Baptisms: 12 noon
- 29/30 **Sunday 17 Year A**
 29 Our Lady of Snows: 11.30am
 San Lupo :1.00pm
 30 Our Lady of Snows: 1.30pm

AUGUST 2017

- 5/6 **Transfiguration**
Vocations Awareness Week begins
 CWF Appeal (1)
 Baptism Preparation: 10.00am
- 8 **St Mary of the Cross at 9.00am**
 11 Young Adults: 8pm in Annexe
- 12/13 **Sunday 19 Year A**
Vocations Awareness Week ends
- 15 **Feast of the Assumption**
- 19/20 **Sunday 20 Year A**
 22 Parish Pastoral Council: 7.30pm
 24 Finance Committee: 7.30pm

happen to us? Through things that are said to us? And through such marvels of nature as 'the wonder and the glory of the everlasting stars' (Australian poet, AB Paterson)?

Are we convinced that there are all around us many, many traces of God's loving and caring presence?

Do we believe that at our Sunday Eucharist God speaks to us in quite special ways - in the people we meet and greet, in the readings, in the homily, in the consecrated bread and wine, in Holy Communion, and in the priest who leads our celebration?

Let's take a few silent moments now to consider those questions, before continuing to celebrate the living and loving presence of Jesus Christ to us, here in our Sunday Eucharist together! bgleesoncp@gmail.com

Centenary Cross

In 2015 the Parish celebrated 100 years since the Passionists took possession of Shrublands Estate and opened the new monastery, after they had lived in Despointes Street since 1887. At the time the Pastoral & Finance Councils decided to commission a large Celtic Cross to be built in the Church forecourt to remember all who had walked on this land, from the Aboriginal peoples, to the migrant peoples from early days, to us who are here today. On advice of the builders, we decid-

ed on a granite cross, as it was thought a sandstone cross would not last forever. Now in July 2017, the Centenary Cross has come to birth.

PLANNED GIVING—WEEKLY ENVELOPES 2017/2018

Please be sure to pick up your NEW SET OF ENVELOPES FOR 2017-2018 from the table at the main doors of the church if you did not do so last weekend. These are now the **only valid envelopes**—please destroy any earlier envelopes.

Also available for collection are : Planned Giving receipts 1/7/2016 to 31/12 2016 together with those for CWF Appeal 2016/2017 and Project Compassion 2017.

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL THIS WEEKEND ALL MASSES

We will join in a practical way in Jesus' life-giving mission, supporting those in need throughout our world. In particular this year, the appeal will give assistance to Catholic Mission's work in Uganda amongst women and children., providing safe places in which women may give birth. Please give generously in the special envelopes provided.

"PILLOWCASES FOR VIETNAM"

"Many thanks to you all for your generous support of our sale of pillow cases last weekend.

A total of \$.2600 will be sent to the Mai Tam Centre (<http://www.maitamhouseofhope.com/home>). The Mai Tam Centre takes in abandoned children who have been born HIV+. It feeds them, educates them and medicates them, as well as trying to relocate them back to their mothers(with appropriate support) and to assist mothers with some cottage industries to give them some financial independence. . Fr Pete cp

THANKS FROM THE REGO FAMILY

On behalf of my father, George and all the Rego Family, I would like to express our sincere thanks to all the parishioners and friends of St Brigid's Parish for your presence, prayer, condolences and celebration of the wonderful life of our wife/mother/grandmother: **Celina**



Rego at her Requiem Mass in this church last Wednesday, 5th July 2017. St Brigid's was her spiritual home for 48 years and the Christian community where she received much friendship and where she served quietly and willingly.

Your presence was a wonderful tribute to a simple and sincerely prayerful woman with a big heart, one which was always open in welcome and hospitality to everyone. This was always evident by her friendliness, concern and kindness to all and her signature radiant smile. Our family was truly moved by the presence of so many people from this parish who were touched by her life.

Information Directory

**CatholicCare Family Help
Line** 1300 1300 52

**St Brigid's Primary
School** 9558 6926

Casimir Catholic College
9558 2888

**Catholic Church
Marriage Tribunal**
9390 5120

Baptisms

Preparation: 1st Sundays
10am

Presentation: 2nd Sunday
Masses

Baptisms: 3rd & 4th Sun-
days at 12 noon

Marriages

Preferably 6 months notice
Contact: Parish Secretary
8577 5670

Pastoral Ministry Con- tacts:

Adult Sacraments Sr
Elena

Care of Sick & Aged Sr
Elena

CCD in State Schools
Sue King

Children's Sacraments
Sr Elenita

**Cultural Committee
Chair**

George Harb

**Ecumenical & Interfaith
Co-chairs** John

McGrath, Pat Bowthorpe
FMM

Family Groups Contact
Adrienne and John

Harverson

**Acting Finance C'tee
Chair**

Mary Leask

**Justice & Peace Network
Chair** Peter Jennings

Liturgical Ministries Fr
Tim, Sr Elena

Men's Club Co-chairs:
Arthur Kassis, John Skin-
ner, Mick Ward

**Pastoral Council Co-
chairs** Paige Bullen, Peter
Jennings, .

We sincerely thank Fr Tim and the Parish Team, the beautiful choir, and those friends who assisted us in designing and printing the booklets, decorating the church, and in many little ways – all of which was greatly appreciated. God bless you all! In gratitude and appreciation, Fr Joachim Rego CP

GRAND OPENING—GIFT OF BREAD OUTREACH

NEXT Sunday 23 July 2017: 10.00am to 2.00pm

(rear of Shrubland Hall behind St Brigid's Church).

We are hosting a BBQ + SALADS + DRINKS +

ENTERTAINMENT Featuring Richard (Big Rich) Barakat



We are deeply grateful to St Brigid's Parish, Marrickville and the Passionist Community for providing facilities for the Gift of Bread in the outbuilding behind Shrublands Hall and to the St Vincent de Paul Society for graciously allowing us to share their 'Vinnies Room'. With the help of community members, loyal parishioners, skilled tradespeople and the contributions of many generous benefactors we recently stripped and refurbished the interior of the old building while still maintaining all the original features.

We restored the heritage timber floor, fitted new cupboards and stone bench tops in the general work area, built a new kitchenette with running hot water, built a new staircase to the mezzanine level, laid quality carpet tiles and furnished a new office space in the loft. The premises are now air-conditioned to stop food waste during the hot summer months and we also installed modern LED downlights that are more energy efficient and provide ample light for a safe work environment. ALL WELCOME—For catering purposes, RSVP Sonia on 0410 616 739.

PATRICK MINAHAN VILLAGE

The residents of Patrick Minahan Village wish to thank wholeheartedly residents and neighbours who have contributed very generously to a fund for

We Remember

Recently Deceased: .; Daniel Correia; Duc Nghi Nguyen.

Anniversaries: ..Connie Cloran; Antonio Merlino; Austin Lowe; Francesc Mejia; Giuseppe Biviano; Charles Raby; John Duklevski; Gioan Khoi Tran; Anthony Kim Siang Ng; Maria Anastasi Joaquim Ribeiro; Mantoura Yammine; Jack Shannon; Victoriano Latagan; Francesca & Giovanni Spinella

For our Sick: Lily Sterling; Annamaria Visintin; Richard Gonsalves; Maria Guilfoyle; Clare Fuller;.

Parish Collections

Counters: This week (17/7):
Jim's Team

Counters Next Week (24/7):
Lea's Team

8/9 July1.

1st (Passionists): \$ 1,775

2nd (Parish): \$ 3,972

Cash & Envelopes: \$ 2,727

Credit Cards: \$ 1,245

1/2 July

1st (Passionists) : \$ 1,905

2nd (Parish): \$ 4, 832

Mass Texts: Sunday 15 Yr A

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11

Response: .Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 18-23

Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-23

Intercessions Response:

Lord, graciously hear us

Mass Texts: Sunday 16 Year A

First Reading: Wisdom 12: 13. 16-19

Response: .O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13: 24-43

Intercessions Response:

Lord, graciously hear us

victims after the recent fire. A special "Thank You" to St Brigid's Combined Family Groups for a hugely successful and enjoyable Trivia Night, the proceeds of which have been passed on to residents this past week.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL

Sydney: 7-9 December 2017

It's a Catholic Festival a bit like World Youth Day! Already 130,00 have enrolled, and we, as a parish, hopefully will be well represented. There are lots of ways to be involved, including providing accommodation for up to 30 young members of our Passionist parishes throughout Australia.

Can you help us with accommodation for a few nights?

NEW SINGERS WELCOME!

For Sunday 10.30am Mass—if you have a reasonable ear for music and enjoy singing at Mass, why not come along and join us? For further information, please pop upstairs to the choir loft before or after mass and see Mary or Terry.

PASSIONIST COMPANIONS RETREAT

Where? -The Carmelite Retreat Centre, Varroville, Campbelltown.

When? – Friday evening 1 Sept until after lunch on Sunday 3 September 2017.

A time of Reflection and Meditation.

Enquiries: Carole at capearlwood@yahoo.com.au . OR the Parish Office

"CAMELOT " MUSICAL

Presented by Artes Christi with cast and live orchestra of over 75 people, it brings to life the pageantry, romance and intrigue of King Arthur's Court. This production is proudly supporting EPHPHETA, the Catholic centre for deaf and hard of hearing people.

When: 18-20 August 2017 **Where:** Seymour Centre

Cost: \$40.00/\$35.00 for groups of 7 and over.

To book: 9351 7940 OR www.camelot2017.com

Liturgical Timetable

Mon—Fri: Masses: 6.45 am, 9.00 am; Eucharistic Adoration: 7.15-8.45am. Benediction: 8.45am

Public Hols: Mass 9.00am

Saturday: Mass 7.30 am; Reconciliation 9-10 am & 4-4.45pm; Marriages 10-3 pm;

Mass: 5 pm; & 6.30 pm (Vietnamese)

Sunday: Mass at 7.30 am, 9 am, 10 .30am (multilingual); 4.30pm (Vietnamese); 6pm

Ministry of Support to Aged and Infirm

Mass is celebrated monthly in all the Aged Care facilities in Marrickville.

Communion is taken to sick residents in Aged Care facilities & in their homes on a weekly basis, by Ministers or family members.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is offered after Masses on First Fridays, and at the 10am Italian mass on 1st Fridays. Also available on request and recommended before attending hospital for major surgery.

Lectors/Commentators

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

	15/16 July	22/23 July	15/16 July	22/23 July	15/16 July	22/23 July
5 pm Sat	Robert Whitby Karen Whitby Kelelia Apikotoa	Gabriella Bietola Paul Cloran Leila Walsh	Liz Buchel Margaret Dos Santos Michael Schiano	Mary Leask Maria Fuller Paul Hurst Shelley Hopper	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi
7.30 Sun	Elizabeth Delaney SGS Maree Doyle Margret Barrett	Pat O'Reilly Carolann Ibbotson	John Freeman Maria Mansour Mary Entriiken	Maree Doyle Margaret Kelly Janice Schubach	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
9 am Sun	Christina Day Joseph Tupou Peter Jennings	ST BRIGID'S SCHOOL: Year 4	Sue King Francis Seufale Jose Hartany Jessica Hartany	Kath Walton Pedro Moreira Diane Moreira Peter Jennings Christina Day Judith Flett Teachers		
10.30 am Sun	Maria Barlow Italian Reader George Harb	Kate Johnson Italian Reader Mely Siasat	Terry Reyes Lope Reyes Maria Barlow Maria Necesito Geoffrey Lean	Kate Johnston George Harb Mely Siasat Italian Ministers	Geoffrey Lean Aldrick De Vera Alfred De Vera	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia
6 pm Sun	Jacquei Hicks Michael McGrathP	YOUTH	Pei Pei Coa Arthur Kassis Jackie Kassis Tony Hayek Noeleen Fernandez Jim Boggs	YOUTH Ivy Bullen Fergus Bullen Nathan Harverson Naomi Rego	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek