



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

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

Sunday 16 in Ordinary Time - Year B

THE GIFT OF BREAD

There are at least three kinds of hunger. There is a hunger for bread, for the food and drink that satisfy physical hunger and nourish physical health. There is emotional hunger, a hunger for acceptance and welcome, and affection from others. And there is spiritual hunger. This, for Christians, is a craving for Christ and his company. As a famous song puts it, in the words of St Richard of Chichester, this hunger is a longing to "see him more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly, day by day."

Mother Teresa of Calcutta has spoken well of these three kinds of hunger:

Your poverty is greater than ours....the spiritual poverty of the West is much greater than the physical poverty of the East. In the West there are millions of people who suffer loneliness and emptiness, who feel unloved and unwanted. They are not the hungry in the physical sense; what is missing is a relationship with God and each other.

In our Gospel today, we meet people who are experiencing the three kinds of hunger. Their greatest hunger is for the company of Jesus, for the enlightenment and truth of the words he speaks, and for the warmth and comfort of his understanding, kindness and compassion. They are also feeling the pangs of physical hunger and hoping he can relieve those too.

Looking for a little rest and recreation Jesus sails with his friends for the eastern shore of the lake. But seeing where the boat is heading, the crowds hurry along the shore and are already waiting for them at the other side. You can imagine what you and I might have thought and even said about this. Jesus too might easily have felt annoyed and resentful. He might easily have moaned and groaned: "Why won't they leave us alone for a while? Why won't they let us have a bit of time to

ourselves? Why won't they stay away? Why won't they?"

But Jesus thinks no such thoughts. He thinks only of them, of their need for him, and for the love and assistance he can provide as their Good Shepherd. Sensing their longing to be with him and seeing so many sick and trouble persons among them, his heart overflows with compassion. And so, he goes from one group to another—talking to them, listening to them, comforting them and healing their physically and mentally ill ones. In this way the longing they have to be with him, and their need for acceptance, welcome, affection, are completely satisfied.

All this has much to say to us as the disciples of Jesus in the world today. We must face first of all, the physical hunger of millions of our fellow human beings. Can we any longer feel easy about so much conspicuous consumption and so much waste in our Western world when so many are deprived of the basic necessities of life and are actually starving? What will Jesus say to us on Judgement Day? Will it be: "I was hungry, and you gave me food? I was thirsty, and you gave me drink?(Mt 25: 35-36). Or will it be: "I was hungry and you never gave me any food, I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink".

In the second place, there are all around us so many deprived and lonely people who are craving for even a little bit of affirmation and acceptance. The widespread problems of so many runaway and homeless children, of drug addiction, of domestic violence, of suicide, are but symptoms of unsatisfied longings to be loved and to love. Can you and I be a little more sensitive, a little more responsive, a little more active and caring towards so many lost and lonely people? And will we let Jesus Christ say to us: "I was a stranger and you made me welcome, lacking clothes and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me.?"

Jesus has clearly identified himself with people in physical, emotional and spiritual need To meet them is to meet him. “In truth I tell you”, he says, “ in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me” (Mt 25: 40-41) and “in so far as you neglected to to this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me” (Mt 25:45).

It is the same Jesus whom we meet today in our celebration of the Eucharist, as the Jesus who took pity on the crowd of hungry people on the shore of the lake. He will shortly be nourishing our friendship with him in the signs of bread and wine, in order to empower us to become more like him. And at the end of Mass he will be sending us back into the world as a source of nourishment to others, be reaching out to them with our words and actions of acceptance and welcome, affirmation and affection.

Fed then, by our holy communion with him, may we do more than ever before to satisfy the physical, emotional and spiritual hungers of all those needy persons out there, whom God has put on our paths to nourish them with practical signs of God’s own compassionate and caring love!

Fr Brian Gleeson CP
bgleesoncp@gmail.com

Attention Lectors and Special Ministers
“RENEWAL GATHERING”

In the Stradbroke Room of the Provincial Office

Dates: Wednesday 25 July at 7.00pm

OR

Saturday 28 July at 9.30am

Please be sure to collect your Invitation to the Refresher Course for your ministry from the table at the Main Doors of the church.

Catholic Mission Appeal (Propagation of the Faith) 2018

“How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings peace.....” (Isaiah 52:7)

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Appeal in support of the work of Catholic Mission already. Please return your envelopes asap so we can forward your donations to the Appeal office quickly.

Planned Giving 2018/2019

Please collect your new set of envelopes for **2018/2019** if you have not yet done so.

PLEASE DESTROY ALL ENVELOPES DATED EARLIER THAN 1 JULY 2018 AND ONLY USE CURRENT 2018/2019 ENVELOPES IF YOU WISH TO CLAIM A RECEIPT FOR THE NEW TAX YEAR.

Receipts for those who requested them are now available at the main doors of the church for **Planned Giving (25%), CWF Appeal and Project Compassion .**

Ecumenical Prayer Evening

NEXT Sunday, 29 July at 7.30pm at St Paul of the Cross Church, Dulwich Hill. An evening of prayer, readings from scripture and music in the style of Taize. Light supper to follow. ALL WELCOME!

Day Retreat

Does the Forest Pray?
Daily prayers are delivered
on the lips of breaking waves,
the whispering of grasses
the shimmering of leaves.

Date: Saturday 28 July 2018

Venue: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo

Bookings: 02 4236 0533

E-mail: cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au

Cost: \$30.00—BYO lunch, Morning & afternoon tea provided.

Presenter: Sr Veronica osb

Bring a good pair of walking shoes as we take a stroll in our forest

CatholicCare—Help Wanted!

Could you provide short-term help for long-term memories?

Compassionate people **urgently** needed to provide short-term foster care.

Information Night on **Tuesday 14th August 2018,** 5.30-8.00pm at 2C West St, Lewisham. Enquiries/bookings: 13 18 19 OR connect@familyspirit.org

“The Bishop’s Blend”

Join the fifth edition of the breakfast events for young professionals hosted by Bishop Richard Umbers on Monday 6 August 2018 at 7.00-8.30am at Radisson Blue Hotel, 27 O’Connell St Sydney. TICKETED event.— thebishopsblendfifthedition.eventbrite.com

Developing Your Own Spirituality II

Presenters: Michael Whelan SM , PhD and Marie Biddle RSJ, MA, MTh

Aquinas Academy, Level 5, 141 Harrington St, Sydney on 4 Thursday mornings, 10.00am-12noon from August 2-23 2018. Cost: \$144 incl summary notes.

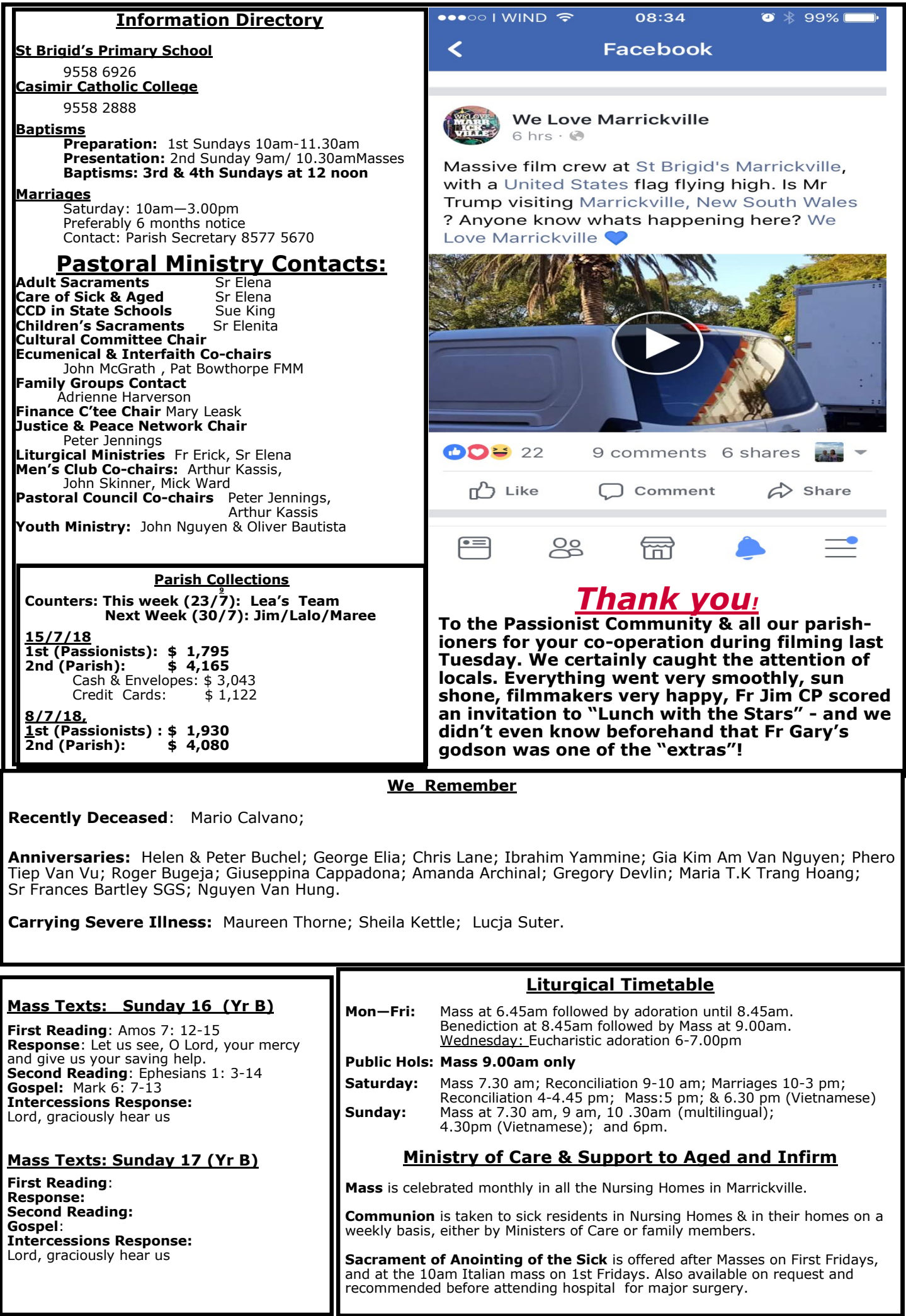
To register: secretary@aquinas-academy.com OR phone 9247 4651.

This course will be repeated on 4 Wednesday evenings from 6-8.00pm form 7-28 November.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney
Safeguarding Office

If you or anyone close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney, we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options available to you.

Please contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office on: 9390 5812



St Brigid's Youth Group

Thank You

to all the parishioners, parents and youth who made last week's first ever St Brigid's Youth Camp happen.

Thank You

also to all those who had their cars washed.

YOUTH NIGHT

THIS Sunday, 22 July

If you missed out on the camp, why not come along *this* Sunday after the 6.00pm Mass and meet the Youth in Shrubland Hall, behind St Brigid's Church.

Calendar

JULY

21/22

Sunday 16 in Ordinary Time

23Baptisms: 12 noon

24Term 3 Commences

25Parish Pastoral Council

San Lupo Rehearsal :7pm in church

Lectors/Ministers Renewal: Stradbroke Room at 7pm

27San Lupo Vigil Mass

28/29

Sunday 17 in Ordinary Time

28Lectors/Ministers Renewal: Stradbroke Room at 9.30am

Our Lady of Snows Vigil: 11am

San Lupo Proc & Mass: 1.30pm

29Our L of Snows Proc & Mass:1.30pm

AUGUST

4/5

Sunday 18 in Ordinary time

CWF Appeal: all masses

August Baptism preparation: 10am in Annexe

8Feast of St Mary of the Cross

10P/School Mass: St Mary of the Cross

11/12

Sunday 19 in Ordinary Time

Commissioning of Lectors/Ministers at all masses

15Feast of the Assumption

18/19

Sunday 20 in Ordinary Time

Baptisms: 12 noon

Sunday Mass Ministries: Sunday 16 & Sunday 17 Year B						
Lectors/Commentators			Communion Ministers		Altar Servers	
	21/22 July	28/29 July	21/22 July	28/29 July	21/22 July	28/29 July
5 pm Sat	Gabrielle Bietola Paul Cloran	Please volunteer	Mary Leask Maria Fuller Paul Hurst Shelley Hopper	Please volunteer	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi
7.30am Sun	Pat O'Reilly Carolán Ibbotson		Maree Doyle Margaret Kelly Janice Schubach Theresa James		Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
9 am Sun	Chris Roehrig Peter Jennings		Kath Walton Pedro Moreira Diane Moreira Christina Day Judith Flett			
10.30 am Sun	Mely Siasat Italian Reader		Kate Johnston George Harb Mel Siasat Italian Ministers		Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia	Geoffrey Lean A & A de Vera
6 pm Sun	YOUTH		YOUTH		Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek