



## 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 18 in Ordinary Time - Year B

### **JESUS, OUR BREAD OF LIFE**

'Food, glorious food. ...! Among the most popular shows on TV are those about food. 'Masterchef', 'My Kitchen Rules', and Jamie Oliver draw large TV audiences. Many more people than so-called 'foodies' are drawn to them. The sheer number of fans tells me that there is a widespread and ongoing fascination with food—getting it, cooking it and eating it. It's not that most of us live to eat. Rather, it's because we eat to live, and just sometimes because we love to eat, that such shows are appealing.

Over one hundred years ago, Nicolai Bardyaev, a Christian Russian philosopher, made this wise comment about bread: 'Bread for myself is a material matter; bread for other people is a spiritual matter.' I think that just about sums up the attitude of Jesus in his teaching today. Only the day before he has fed the people on the far side of the lake with more bread than they can eat. But they are not satisfied, for on the very next day they return to him at the base of Capernaum, expecting another generous hand-out. So he challenges them: 'You have seen' he says in effect, 'wonderful things. You have seen how the goodness of God enabled a big crowd to be fed. Your thoughts ought to have turned to God who did these things. Instead, all you are thinking about is yourselves, and filling your bellies with bread.'

His point was that they were interested only in physical satisfaction. On the famous ladder of human needs first identified by Abraham Maslow in 1943, they are clinging to the bottom rung of the ladder—bodily needs. But what about those higher needs higher up the ladder? How can a hearty meal and a full stomach replace eg. Belonging to others and being connected to others in loving relationships? Being approved, respected, and esteemed by others? Exploring, knowing and understanding the truth in facts and faith? Encountering and savouring

order and beauty every where? And most of all realizing our potential to be everything we can be for the service of others and for a better world?

Most of all Jesus wants to lead these seekers (and ourselves too) to 'work for the food that endures for eternal life', for the bread that lasts and which God is offering. Jesus spells out just what food is. It's nothing less than a personal, interpersonal life-giving and everlasting relationship with himself. He sums this up in powerful words, and especially these:

1. 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom you sent.'
2. 'Very truly I tell you...the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'
3. 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

His first hearers eagerly ask for this bread—'always' they say—but they don't understand what this bread really is. Jesus, the man standing before them, is himself the bread. In the way he lives, loves and dies for them, they are meant to see the face of God, entering into an intimate relationship with them.

Surely this gospel speaks strongly to us as well. But it also reminds us that there is some difference between knowing Jesus personally and simply knowing about him. To know Jesus personally is to respond to his person and message, to share our lives with him, to follow him, and as a result, to change our lives and become better people, more human and humane people. This is the knowledge that involves an experience of his presence, friendship with him, trust and prayer.

But the knowledge that comes from an interpersonal relationship with him gives rise to a desire, and perhaps even a yearning and a hunger, to know more about him, to learn more about his beliefs, his

Values, and how he lived his life. Faith in him, then, is a matter of both head and heart. When we hear or read about him, we also expect to meet him in the voices we hear and in the pages we read. But we do not seek a Jesus hidden behind the texts but a Jesus shown to us inside the texts, and most especially in the selected Readings about him Sunday after Sunday in church.

But the challenge remains to keep discovering how this great man from the distant past is also in significant ways one of us, and therefore very real and relevant. So much so, that as the song from the stage show *Godspell* has it, a song that echoes the prayer of St Richard of Chichester, we would want to keep praying for three things—'to see him more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly, day by day.'

*Let's keep taking up the challenge!*

**Fr Brian Gleeson CP**  
[bgleesoncp@gmail.com](mailto:bgleesoncp@gmail.com)

#### **From the Parish Team**

**Sr Elenita CP**— We bid a fond farewell and “Bon Voyage” to Sr Elenita who departs for her two months of “home leave” with her family this week. She will return from the Philippines at the end of September.

**Fr Erick CP/Fr Thomas CP**—will be away from the parish this week attending meetings in Melbourne with other younger Passionists.

**Sr Elena CP**—we welcome back Sr Elena to the parish this week after her jet-setting around Italy and Rome—can't wait for the “slideshow”!

#### **Vocations Awareness Week: 5-12 August**

**What can you do?** Perhaps attend an extra Mass this week to pray for the vocation of your children/grandchildren? Pray a Rosary for vocations from our parish? Visit the Shrine of Mary Help of Christians in the Cathedral to pray for Vocations? Visit St Mary MacKillop's Tomb and pray there? Pray for Vocations as a family before dinner throughout the week?

#### **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](mailto:connect@familyspirit.org)

#### **Teaching Day**

Next Saturday 11 August, 9.45am-3.30pm at St Joseph's, Enfield. Topic: “Weapons I need for My Spiritual Journey” Speaker: Ron Maldigri. Cost: \$15.00. Please bring Bible, and a dish for our communal lunch. Enquiries: Rose on 0412 115 961.

#### **THANK YOU to John, Oliver and Adrienne!**

“On behalf of the Youth group, parents, and Parish Team, I offer thanks to John, our Youth Minister, and to Oliver, his assistant, for all the care and energy they put into our recent St Brigid's Youth Retreat. It takes vision and great faith and persistence to deliver an event like this in collaboration with such a broad group of stakeholders.

John & Oliver brought together a wonderful group of experienced leaders to run the weekend and also involved our own St Brigid's senior youth members, introducing them to retreat leadership. The weekend had special moments for everyone and the feedback has been positive, particularly in relation to Adoration on Saturday night, and the exuberant car-washing on Sunday morning!

I invite all of you to say Thank You to John and Oliver. Please also thank Adrienne Harverson who has given a lot of her time representing & organising the parents, and supporting John in the planning and actioning of the event.

We wish John ‘Happy Birthday’ for last Thursday. May God bless you with more energy as you guide the young *into the deep* love of God.”

*Fr Erick CP*

#### **Volunteers Wanted**

“Sharing a Meal” programme which has been operating for 20 years at St V de Paul Church, 117 Redfern St, Redfern, is urgently seeking helpers. Every Tuesday and Friday morning, 8.45am-10.45am.

Contact: Jenny on 0407 977 180 if interested

#### **“Living Well at Home”**

*Do you have someone you care for who wants to remain living at home?*

Information sessions on home support and home care packages: sponsored by Inner West Council:

13 August, 6-8.00pm at Community Library, 362-372 New Canterbury Rd, Dulwich Hill OR

15 August, 10am-Noon at Balmain Town Hall, 370 Darling St, Balmain.

For more information: Mary Ciantar on 9335 2108

#### **The Grail meets Laudato Si'**

Seminar: Changing the World at the Grail Centre, Nth Sydney on August 11 2018 from 10am-12noon. ALL Welcome, especially Gens X, Y and Millennials AND their ideas. Enquiries: [grailsydney@ozemail.com.au](mailto:grailsydney@ozemail.com.au)

#### **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*



### Information Directory

#### St Brigid's Primary School

9558 6926

#### Casimir Catholic College

9558 2888

#### Baptisms

**Preparation:** 1st Sundays 10am-11.30am

**Presentation:** 2nd Sunday 9am/ 10.30am Masses

**Baptisms:** 3rd & 4th Sundays at 12 noon

#### Marriages

Saturday: 10am—3.00pm

Preferably 6 months notice

Contact: Parish Secretary 8577 5670

### Pastoral Ministry Contacts:

**Adult Sacraments** Sr Elena

**Care of Sick & Aged** Sr Elena

**CCD in State Schools** Sue King

**Children's Sacraments** Sr Elenita

**Cultural Committee Chair**

**Ecumenical & Interfaith Co-chairs**

John McGrath, Pat Bowthorpe FMM

**Family Groups Contact**

Adrienne Harverson

**Finance C'tee Chair** Mary Leask

**Justice & Peace Network Chair**

Peter Jennings

**Liturgical Ministries** Fr Erick, Sr Elena

**Men's Club Co-chairs:** Arthur Kassis,

John Skinner, Mick Ward

**Pastoral Council Co-chairs** Peter Jennings,

Arthur Kassis

**Youth Ministry:** John Nguyen & Oliver Bautista

### Parish Collections

**Counters: This week (30/7): Jim/Lalo/Maree**

**Next Week (6/8): Jim/Lalo/Maree**

#### 29/7/18

**1st (Passionists): \$ 2,265**

**2nd (Parish): \$ 4,458**

Cash & Envelopes: \$ 3,319

Credit Cards: \$ 1,139

#### 22/7/18.

**1st (Passionists) : \$ 1,865**

**2nd (Parish): \$ 4,809**

## CHARITABLE WORKS APPEAL 2018-2019

***"Almsgiving helps us to recognise our neighbour as our brother or sister, and to acknowledge that what we possess is never ours alone."  
Pope Francis, 3 March 2018***

**The FIRST Appeal for the new financial year:  
THIS weekend, 4-5 August 2018,  
in ALL parishes throughout  
the Archdiocese of Sydney**

Your contributions will support :

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD—  
scripture teaching in state schools)

Ephpheta Centre (services for deaf/hard of  
hearing)

Catholic Chaplaincy (to universities, aged  
care, hospitals)

Seminaries .....and more.

## 100%. TAX DEDUCTIBLE

***(and the more you give, the less the Parish  
has to take from parish programmes to  
meet our levy)***

### We Remember

**Recently Deceased:** Friedah SIMBEL; Lisa COLUCCIO.; Teresa SAMA

**Anniversaries:** Chloe Bovingdon; Clara Anderson; Robert Smith; Kevin Doyle; Gloria Chippendale; Ray Syks; Maria Indraguati Widjaja; Georg Sippel; Magno Paglinawan; Mary O'Brien.

**Carrying Severe Illness:** Maureen Thorne; Sheila Kettle; Lucja Suter.

### Liturgical Timetable

**Mon—Fri:** Mass at 6.45am followed by adoration until 8.45am.  
Benediction at 8.45am followed by Mass at 9.00am.  
Wednesday: Eucharistic adoration 6-7.00pm

**Public Hols: Mass 9.00am only**

**Saturday:** Mass 7.30 am; Reconciliation 9-10 am; Marriages 10-3 pm;  
Reconciliation 4-4.45 pm; Mass: 5 pm; & 6.30 pm (Vietnamese)

**Sunday:** Mass at 7.30 am, 9 am, 10.30am (multilingual);  
4.30pm (Vietnamese); and 6pm.

### Ministry of Care & Support to Aged and Infirm

**Mass** is celebrated monthly in all the Nursing Homes in Marrickville.

**Communion** is taken to sick residents in Nursing Homes & in their homes on a weekly basis, either by Ministers of Care 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.

### Mass Texts: Sunday 18 (Yr B)

**First Reading:** Exodus 16: 2-4. 12-15

**Response:** The Lord gave them bread from heaven

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 4: 17. 20-24

**Gospel:** John 6: 24-35

**Intercessions Response:**

Lord, graciously hear us

### Mass Texts: Sunday 19 (Yr B)

**First Reading:** 1 Kings 19:4-8

**Response:** Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 4: 30-5: 2

**Gospel:** John 6: 41-51

**Intercessions Response:**

Lord, graciously hear us

**Fr Erick CP and Fr Thomas CP** will be absent from the parish this week attending Passionist Meetings in Melbourne.

### Monday 6 August:

**Tuesday 7 –Friday 10 August:**

We welcome, and thank,  
**Fr Jose Mathews CP**, from Melbourne,  
who has generously offered to assist in  
the parish for the rest of the week.  
The 6.45am and 9.00am services from  
Tuesday to Friday will therefore  
be **Masses** as usual.

## AUGUST

August Baptism preparation: 10am in Annexe

8 **Feast of St Mary of the Cross**

10 P/School Mass: St Mary of the Cross

**11/12 Sunday 15 in Ordinary Time**  
Commissioning of Lectors/Ministers at all masses

15 **Feast of the Assumption**

Baptisms: 12 noon

P/School Mass: 9.00am

Baptisms: 12 noon

28 **Seniors Group: 2.00pm**  
Parish Pastoral Council: 7.30pm

## 1/2 Sunday 22 in Ordinary Time

## Fathers' Day

3 Southern Cross Meeting: 2.  
4 Vietnamese Reconciliations

## Lectors/Commentators

## Altar Servers

	4/5 August	11/12 August	4/5 August	11/12 August	4/5 August	11/12 August
<b>5 pm Sat</b>	Mary Leask Michael Price	Liz Buchel Margaret Dos Santos Michael Schiano	Elizabeth Delaney SGS Carole Price Michael Price Carmel Cloran Paul Cloran	William Metlej Gabrielle Bietola Ofa Tupola Kelelia Apiktoa	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi
<b>7.30am Sun</b>	Janice Schubach Margaret Kelly Susie Houssarini	Carolann Ibbotson John Freeman Mary Leask	Mary Entriken Maria Mansour John Freeman	Janice Schubach Margaret Kelly Theresa James Maree Doyle	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
<b>9 am Sun</b>	John Skinner Bec Wong	John McGrath Sue King	Frank Cowell Jennie Oesman Justin Hartany Joanne McGrath John McGrath	Christina Day Peter Jennings Judith Flett John Skinner Therese Skinner		
<b>10.30 am Sun</b>	Bernadette Yammine Italian Reader Catherine Vagnozzi	Kate Johnston Italian reader Angie Chiapoco	Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco George Harb	Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine + 4 incl Italian	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia	Geoffrey Lean A & A de Vera
<b>6 pm Sun</b>	Arthur Kassiss Robert Gascoigne	TEEN GROUP	Kristy Cloran David Cloran Anthony Kassiss Alex Kassiss Lea Paladino	TEEN GROUP	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek