

# 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***



## The Ascension of the Lord Year C 1/2 June 2019

### MAKING SENSE OF THE ASCENSION OF JESUS

In our Creed today we will be saying of Jesus: 'He ascended into heaven.' What picture comes to mind when we think of Jesus ascending into heaven? Do we picture him going up into the stratosphere like a space ship at Cape Canaveral? If we do, we show that we don't realize that the words of scripture about this are not to be taken literally. They are a poetic way of saying that Jesus is no longer on earth in a fleshly, physical and material way. The words of scripture mean that he has gone to God in his risen body and lives with God in light and glory. What they mean is that God who raised him from the dead has therefore honoured and exalted him.

Does his being with God mean he is no longer with us? No, he is with us more strongly, more powerfully, than when he walked the lanes, streets, and roads, of Palestine. He is with us in spirit, i.e. in his gift to us of the Holy Spirit. He acts on us in all the ways the Spirit influences us.

So we don't go looking for him on the clouds or in the sky but in all the down-to-earth ways in which he told us we would find him? We find him in our reading, hearing and heeding of the scriptures, which speak of him. We find him in our celebration of the sacraments. Each of the seven sacraments is a sign of his presence and action. This is especially true of the Eucharist, which is specifically the sign and presence of his now glorified and spiritualized body. We find him in our practical love for our neighbour, and especially for our fellow human beings who are poor, neglected, sad, sorrowing, afraid or despairing.

But if Jesus is no longer visible in the old familiar ways, how will people come to know of his presence? The answer is that he wants to make himself present through his disciples. So on this Feast of the Ascension we also remember the mission he gave his followers, you and me included, before he went home to God. This is to go and tell everyone everywhere the good news that

Jesus is alive and that he is our Saviour, the one who changes people for the better through his gift of the Holy Spirit. So, before he disappears from sight he says to his followers in every century 'You are my witnesses,' and that in order to witness to him we will be 'clothed with the power from on high', the power that is the Holy Spirit. On the subject of witnessing, it's worth remembering that Pope Paul VI said that 'the world needs witnesses more than it needs teachers'. In fact, the world is full of both true and false teachers, but has far fewer witnesses, i.e. people who speak with their lives. Between the two roles there is the same difference as between saying and doing. A well-known proverb underlines this difference: 'Actions speak louder than words', more recently put by the rappers as, 'Walk the walk, not just talk the talk.'

Being witnesses to Jesus is a very important role for parents of children, and especially when they are asked to help with the teaching of their children getting ready for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation. The words which parents say about meeting Jesus and belonging to the Church in each of these steps, will mean nothing if the parents don't practise what they preach. What will the children think if their parents don't go to Mass on Sunday, don't ever make the sign of the cross with them, and don't ever pray with them? The souls of children are like sheets of photographic film. Everything they see and hear in their childhood years leaves a trace, an imprint. One day the 'film' will be 'developed' and it will have its effects, good or bad.

So, in summary, in ascending to heaven, Jesus has not left us. He has merely disappeared from our sight. This is similar to what happens in the Eucharist. So long as the host is outside us, we see it, we adore it. When we receive the host we no longer see it. It has disappeared from sight, but it has disappeared so that Jesus in the host can be within us, and so that he can be present to us in a new way, and even a more powerful way than when he walked our earth in the

in the flesh. So, like the first disciples, we are not sad that Jesus has disappeared from sight but glad, because he is with us, and still loving us in so many ways.

At our Mass today, then, let's make a point of thanking God that Jesus is not only risen and exalted into Glory with God, but that he is also still with us, in powerful and loving ways through his gift of his Spirit, his alter ego, his second self!

[bglesoncp@gmail.com](mailto:bglesoncp@gmail.com)

### Piety Store

Large collection of Rosary beads, wall rosaries, finger and bracelet rosaries now available. Also, a variety of Communion, Confirmation, Baptism, Birthday and Holy cards.

### June Healing Mass

Friday 7 June from 7.00pm at St Joseph's Enfield. Fr George Sigamony. Details: 0412 115 961

### 'Pentecost Retreat: "Moved by the Spirit"

Sunday 9 June 2019, 9.30am-4pm, at 14 Francis St, Randwick. Cost: \$50.00 inclusive of meals. All ages welcome—contact [verbumdeisydney@gmail.com](mailto:verbumdeisydney@gmail.com) OR phone 9341 5848

### Women in Leadership

**Benedictine Abbey—July 4-7, 2019**

**Cost:** \$300 for talks plus accommodation.

Bookings: 0242360533 OR [cottagere-treats@jamberooabbey.org.au](mailto:cottagere-treats@jamberooabbey.org.au)

### Rob Galea "Coming Home" Tour

**Sunday 28 July 2019 at O'Grady Auditorium, Southern Cross Vocational College, Burwood.**  
**Tickets on sale: [www.frministry.com/tickets](http://www.frministry.com/tickets)**

### FOR YOUR DIARY.....

#### 40 Year School Reunion

Ex-students of Bethlehem College, Ashfield, Year 12 of 1979 and Year 10 1977 are invited to attend the 40 Year Reunion on Saturday 10 August 2019. Please contact Eliza at [eljam@netspace.net.au](mailto:eljam@netspace.net.au) for further details.

#### 'Listen with the Soul'

Six day retreat, 16-23 September 2019 at St Clements Retreat Centre, Galong, NSW. Presented by: Fr Kevin Dance CP and Sr Jill Dance. Inner prayer, group sharing, times for silence, healing and reconciliation. Bookings: [info@stclement.com.au](mailto:info@stclement.com.au).

#### Mary MacKillop National Pilgrimage 2019

25th Anniversary Pilgrimage commencing 22 October in Melbourne, visiting Penola, Adelaide and other significant places and concluding in Sydney on 2 November 2019. For brochure, application form or further information please e-mail: [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au)

#### Position Vacant—Surry Hills

Secretarial—PACS & MYOB & admin duties. Days negotiable. Contact: [parish.support@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:parish.support@sydneycatholic.org)

### Thank You!

On behalf of the Pearce family we would like to



thank the Passionists Priests and parishioners for the most beautiful, moving and emotional funeral to celebrate the life of our brother and uncle, Fr John Pearce CP who is now with our Lord Jesus Christ.

To all the Passionist Priests who came from far and wide to be at John's final mass, we thank you. To the choir and musicians, for their heartfelt

and moving music, it was beautiful. To the St Brigid's Community for providing food and refreshments, we were so grateful to have that special time to gather together.

Every person at the mass that day had some sort of connection with John, be it through his ministry as a priest or friend, brother, uncle, cousin or godfather. John was an energetic, dynamic individual who always gave 100% - we are so proud that he was part of our lives.

John married his brothers and sister early in his life as a priest, baptised the children from those marriages, in turn married those nieces and nephews and baptised their children. He loved being around his family administering these sacraments.

We are sure everyone is shocked and numb and finding it hard to come to terms with the loss of John as we are.. We are so grateful to the Passionist Family, Marrickville Community, and the New Zealand Community of the extended Parish of Blenheim for the love and support by all involved shown to our family during this difficult time.

*Peter, Helen, Brian, Kerry, Ann, Neil and Families*

### CONFIRMATION 2019

**Final Preparation Session  
(parents and children)**

**NEXT Wednesday 5 June 2019  
7.00pm in Shrubland Hall**

**Confirmation will be celebrated by  
Most Rev Peter Ingham DD at St Brigid's  
on Sunday 23 June 2019 at 2.00pm**

#### Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney.

*Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you—or anyone you know— have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org) OR 9390 5810.*

*You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.*

## 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  
**Bereavement Ministry:** Sr Elenita  
**Care of Sick & Aged** Sr Elena  
**CCD in State Schools** Sue King  
**Children's Sacraments** Sr Elenita  
**Ecumenical & Interfaith** Jim Yeo  
**Family Groups Contact:** Adrienne Harverson  
**Finance C'tee :** Hamish Flett  
**Justice & Peace Network** Peter Jennings  
**Liturgical Ministries** Fr Erick, Sr Elena  
**Maintenance C'tee:** Michael Daher/Pongia Fenukitau  
**Men's Club:** Arthur Kassis; John Skinner, Mick Ward  
**Parish Safeguarding Support:** Sue King  
**Pastoral Council Co-chairs** Peter Jennings, Arthur Kassis.  
**Youth Ministry:** Jenny Solo

### Parish Collections

**Counters: This week (3/6):** Jim/Lalo/Maree  
**Counters: Next Week (10/6):** Jim/Lalo/Maree

#### 26/5/19

**1st (Passionists):** \$ 1,795  
**2nd (Parish):** \$ 4,263  
Cash & Envelopes: \$ 3,071,  
Credit Cards: \$ 1,192

#### 19/5/19

**1st (Passionists) :** \$ 1,920  
**2nd (Parish):** \$ 2,921

## Calendar

### June 2019

#### 1-2 Ascension of the Lord

**June Baptism Preparation: 10.00am**

**Youth Group: 4-5.30pm in Annexe**

**3 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

**5 Confirmation Prep (final): 7pm in Hall**

**7 Tongan Mass: 7.00pm**

#### 8-9 Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost Pastoral Message

**Senior Youth: 7-8.30 in Annexe**

**10 Public Holiday Mass only: 9am**

**14 Confirmation Reflection Day**

#### 15-16 Most Holy Trinity

**Vinnie's Winter Appeal: ALL Masses**

**Passionist Family Groups Combined**

**Gathering: 6.00pm in Hall**

**16 Baptisms: 12 noon**

**Feast of St Anthony : 1.00pm**

**Junior Youth: 4-5.30 in Annexe**

**21 NO Mass at 9.00am**

**Casimir Founder's Day Mass at 9.30am—all welcome.**

#### 22-23 Body and Blood of Christ

**Baptisms: 12 noon**

**CONFIRMATION: 2.00pm**

## We Remember

**Recently Deceased:** Jose Vieira;

**Anniversaries:** Renae Governor; Thelma Lowe; Margaret Barker; Bruno Nadile; Aileen Bennet; Brian Turner; Amy Cloran; Anna Hoang Thi Nguan; William Edwards; Annie Collins; John Bell; Elizabeth Matthews; Joy Matthews; Antonia Farrugia; Vilma Vella; Maria Dahdah; Angelo Di Tommaso; Boulos Lakiss; Harold Turner; Peter Killalea; Stanley Kean; Joseph Nguyen Quang Linh; Luigi Vanni; Stanley Roberts; Fernanda Parungao; Antonio Zeaiter; Mauricio Quintal; Nayef Akkary; David Menezes; Gladys Bunch; Massad Massad; Bernard Mahony; Filomena Di Sisto; Penny Hutton; Marie Griffin; William Bamford

**Carrying Severe Illness:** Gerard Watts; Rocco Tropea; Joe Harb; Aurore El Tabar; Lena Buck; Mary Harb; Maria Tropea.

### Mass Texts: Ascension (Yr C)

**First Reading:** Acts 1: 1-11

**Response:** God goes up with shouts of joy, alleluia!

**Second Reading:** Ephesians 1: 17-23

**Gospel:** Luke 24: 46-53

**Intercessions Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.

### Mass Texts: Pentecost (Yr C)

**First Reading:** Acts 2: 1-11

**Response:** Send forth your spirit O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

**Second Reading:** Romans 8:8-17

**Gospel:** John 14: 16-17, 23-26

**Intercessions Response:** Lord, graciously hear us

### Liturgical Timetable

**Mon—Fri:** Mass at 6.45am followed by adoration until 8.45am. Benediction at 8.45am followed by Mass at 9.00am. (**Communion service at 9.00am Monday**)

**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 (Viet); 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

# ST BRIGID'S YOUTH

JUNE 2019

Place: The Annexe

**THIS Sunday June 2nd : Junior Youth at 4.00-5.30pm**

**NEXT Sunday June 9th : Senior Youth at 7.-8.30pm**

**Sunday June 16th : Junior Youth at 4.00-5.30pm**

**Sunday June 23rd: 6.00pm YOUTH MASS followed by Young Adults in Annexe**

**ALL WELCOME!**

## Parish Administrator's Blog.....

As at May's sharing, I'd like to share another good question Deacon Christopher asked me last February: "What is your vision for St Brigid's Parish?"

My response was that *my vision is to get to know St Brigid's in its many different parts. By this I mean the people, the culture, the ministries & how things operate.* The last thing I want to do is bring new things to people I don't know or to ministries I don't yet know that well. Some of the steps I have taken—I should be visiting families more often but I try. I have enjoyed staying after Mass at St Brigid's to talk to parishioners—I wonder why people don't rush home, but it makes me happy to catch up and build relationships with our community. I enjoy taking the opportunity to listen and share experiences whether at planned visits (nursing homes, schools, hospitals, parish meetings and events) or just running into each other in a shop etc.

Mid last year I shared with the Parish Team the need for them to help me learn more about their ministries. We began writing down our tasks, how we do each task and the time it takes. The lists are still going on. Last March we spent a day discussing this information, and came back more aware of each other's roles. We noticed that some ministries could be shared & others improved in time, & have had some valuable evaluation. I appreciate very much the support of the Parish Team.

Of course, I have other visions for St Brigid's, one being to learn your visions for St Brigid's. *Why don't you share with me when you see me next?*

May was the month of Mary, and I'd like to call June the month of the Holy Spirit as Pentecost will soon be here. We have many visions for the Church. I invite you to pray with me to the Holy Spirit already residing in our hearts, to teach us to have Jesus-like visions, whatever they may be.

*With Peace  
Erick CP*

## **Sunday Mass Ministries: Ascension and Pentecost Yr C**

	Lectors/Commentators		Communion Ministers		Altar Servers	
	1/2 June	8/9 June	1/2 June	8/9 June	1/2 June	8/9 June
<b>5 pm Sat</b>	Mary Leask Leila Walsh Michael Price	Liz Buchel Michael Schiano Margaret Dos Santos	Carole Price Michael Price Carmel Cloran Paul Cloran	William Metlej Gabrielle Bietola Ofa Tupola Kelelia Apikotoa	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi
<b>7.30am Sun</b>	Janice Schubach Marg Barrett	Mary Leask Janice Schubach	Margaret Kelly Maria Mansour	Theresa James Janice Schubach	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
<b>9 am Sun</b>	Sue King Bec Wong	Peter Jennings Jim yeo	Frank Cowell Jenny Oesman Joanne McGrath John McGrath	Peter Jennings Judith Flett Francis Seufale	Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen	Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen
<b>10.30 am Sun</b>	Bernadette Yammine Italian Reader Catherine Vagnozzi	Kate Johnston Italian Reader Angie Chiapoco	Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco	Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine	Geoffrey Lean Aldrick De Vera Alfred De Vera	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia
<b>6 pm Sun</b>	Youth	Youth	Youth	Youth	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek