



## 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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**Administrator:** Fr Erick Niyiragira CP ([pp@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:pp@stbrigid.org.au))  
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 John Nguyen (Youth Minister) [youthministry@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:youthministry@stbrigid.org.au)  
 Parish Secretary: Ms Terrey Trethowan (9.30am - 4pm)

**We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people**

## Sunday 21 in Ordinary Time - Year B

### PERSONAL COMMITMENT REQUIRED

Joshua says to the people he has led across the river to the Promised Land: 'As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.'

Peter says something like that too. He's answering the question Jesus put to his inner circle of disciples, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?'

Peter replies: 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the holy one of God.'

The movie *Lady Sings the Blues* is an oldie but a goodie. It's the life story of the famous singer, Billie Holiday. Diana Ross spent months preparing for her role as Billie. She read miles of print about Billie's life. For hours on end she listened to Billie's songs. 'I was committed to doing a good job,' Diana said, 'I tried very hard to know her as much as I could.'

On the other hand, Mario Lanza was shaping up to be the greatest tenor in the world. He was chosen to play the part of Enrico Caruso in the movie *The Great Caruso*. It was a smash. Fame and fortune followed the handsome singer. Soon he was lured to Hollywood. But there he went off the rails with booze, babes and drugs, the usual temptations in show biz. At age 38, he died mysteriously in a slimming clinic, apparently a victim of the Mafia. Basically what went wrong with Mario Lanza is that he fell away from his commitment. And failing in his commitment, he failed in the necessary self-discipline to keep practicing in order to keep singing at his peak.

A crisis point has come into the relationship between Jesus and his followers. Many are outraged by all he has said of himself as the Bread of Life. They walk away. We can imagine the sadness of Jesus. But it brings him to the point of putting out a

challenge to those who are left. 'Do you want to stay with me?' he asks. 'Or do you want to go away? Make up your minds. Make your choice, one way or another.' Peter speaks for the group. You know what he said.

Perhaps there are times when we too feel like walking away from our contact with Jesus the Bread of Life, when we feel like staying away from the Eucharist, either occasionally or permanently. It may be that we are tired of words about it. It may be that we are tired of poor celebrations of it. It may be that some changes in the wording have upset us. Perhaps we find it too slow. Perhaps we find it too fast. Perhaps we are saying to ourselves: 'It's all so mysterious. It's all over my head.' Or perhaps the problem is: 'I don't know anybody much at church.' Or 'there's not enough time to say my own prayers.' Or else 'the priest is too old. He's out of touch with what's happening in the world. He doesn't understand what's happening with my life.'

May I suggest that when all is said and done, all such explanations may just be excuses and rationalizations for the one big thing that may be missing, viz. *personal commitment*, and what goes with personal commitment, perseverance and fidelity? Personal commitment, perseverance and fidelity! Those tried and true values no longer seem to count the way they used to and the way they ought to. Being entertained, having fun, going out, going shopping, watching TV, playing sport, watching sport, doing home renovations, anything else at all nowadays seems to matter more and be more attractive and appealing than on-going commitment to Jesus and ongoing commitment to God. Anything but Jesus seems to be valued more than loving commitment to God and God's people.

Unless and until we value our Sunday Eucharist as the renewal of our covenant relationship with Jesus, as time shared with him during its celebration, and as the renewal of our commitment to go

out from his table to make a better world, we just won't be ready to say to the Lord those wonderful words of commitment spoken by Peter and Joshua: 'As for me and my house,' said Joshua, 'we will serve the Lord.' Peter said: 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of everlasting life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

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

#### **St Brigid's Seniors' Group**

**Next Meeting : THIS Sunday 26 August 2018** ( 4th Sunday of month) at 2.00pm in the Parish Office Meeting Room. ALL WELCOME

#### **St Brigid's Youth/Young Adults**

**YOUTH MASS—THIS Sunday, 26 August** at 6.00pm followed by gathering in Annexe/Hall.

**New members very welcome!**

#### **Parish Fund-Raiser**

This weekend and next keep a lookout for delicious pastries/sweets/cookies/cakes at very generous prices being sold after masses. Thanks to the generosity of our Vietnamese parishioners, all proceeds will go directly to the parish and our parish programmes. Don't Miss out!!!

#### **New Singers Welcome— Sunday 10.30am Mass!**

If you have a reasonable ear for music and enjoy singing at Mass, why not come along and join us—we'd love to meet you!

For further information, please pop upstairs to the choir loft and see Mary or Terry.

#### **Catholic Men's Fellowship**

**Australian Catholic Men's Conference (NSW)**  
endorsed by Bishop Anthony Randazzo

**Venue:** Dooleys Catholic Club Lidcombe,

**Date:** Saturday 1 September 2018, 9:30am to 4:00pm

**Registration fee:** \$48 early bird rate, or \$60— includes: Mass by Bishop Anthony Randazzo; 3 guest speakers (Robert Falzon, Simon Carrington and Dr John Collins); workshop; morning tea, lunch, and afternoon tea.

Registration website: <https://www.trybooking.com/vdgl>

**Info: contact Arthur Kassis on 0439 564 654**

#### **Thank YOU!**

To all who contributed to the recent Catholic Mission Parish Appeal. Total amount raised: \$1252.90.

#### **Healing Mass**

**Friday 7 September 2018** at 8.00pm at St Joseph's Enfield, preceded by Rosary and Reconciliation. Celebrant: Fr Sabu Adimakiyil VC

#### **Catalyst for Renewal**

Dinner on **September 7 2018 at 7.30pm** at Villa Maria Parish Hall, Hunters Hill. Tickets: \$60.00 **Bookings essential.** Speaker: John Allen. Topic: "Pope Francis and his Critics—A Vatican Insiders View." Contact: [catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au](mailto:catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au) OR phone 9990 7003.

**ALSO— Sunday 9 September, 2-4pm** at Verebruggen Hall, Sydney Conservatorium of Music, Macquarie St, lecture by John Allen on "Pope Francis' Efforts for Reform and Implications for the Australian Church preparing for its Plenary Council". \$30.00. Bookings essential as above.

#### **School Reunion**

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School—mums of students from the 60s, 70s and 80s.

Saturday 13 October at 11.30am at the Lantern Club, 21 Roselands Ave, Roselands.

Buffet lunch- \$55.00 per head. RSVP AND payment must be received by 21 September 2018. Contact Carole: [capearlwood@yahoo.com.au](mailto:capearlwood@yahoo.com.au) OR Rosa: 0408 161 240.

#### **Palms Australia—Opening our hands to the World**

Seeking volunteers to take up the challenge of overseas mission in 2019. Further Information: [kevin@palms.org.au](mailto:kevin@palms.org.au) OR [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au)

#### **Archdiocesan Priests' Retirement Fund**

NEXT weekend, 1-2 September 2018 at all masses. Funds raised will be used for accommodation and living expenses, dental and medical care, extra home care where needed etc for aging diocesan priests throughout the Archdiocese. Special envelopes are available on the stands at the main church doors.

[www.donatesydneycatholic.org](http://www.donatesydneycatholic.org)

#### **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  
**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 (27/8): Jim/Lalo/Maree**  
**Next Week(3/9): Jim/Lalo/Maree**

**19/8/18**

**1st (Passionists): \$ 1,655**  
**2nd (Parish): \$ 4,066**  
Cash & Envelopes: \$ 2,928  
Credit Cards: \$ 1,138

**12/8/18.**

**1st (Passionists) : \$ 1,780**  
**2nd (Parish): \$ 4,035**

**MIGRANT AND REFUGEE WEEK  
20-26 AUGUST 2018**

**PRAYER**

*God, no one is a stranger to you and  
no one is ever far from your loving care.*

*In your kindness watch over migrants,  
refugees and asylum seekers,  
those separated from their loved ones,  
those who are lost and  
those who have been exiled from their  
homes.*

*Bring them safely to the place  
where they long to be,  
and help us always to show your kind-  
ness  
to strangers and those in need.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord,  
who too was a refugee and migrant  
who travelled to another land  
searching for a home.*

**AMEN**

**Archdiocese of Hobart**

**We Remember**

**Recently Deceased:** Maureen Thorne.; Yvonne Rogers

**Anniversaries:** .Caterina Arcuri; Ren Thi Pham; Kathleen Townsend; Mary Cunningham; Mane Lakiss; Salvatore Buda; Racheda Semramy; Maria Bui Thi Dang; Phero Pham cong Dai; Ng T Trinh'; Kathleen Zamudio; Bill Barrett; Irene Whitby; Crispulo Latagan;

**Carrying Severe Illness:** Mary Harb; 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 21 (Yr B)**

**First Reading:** Joshua 24: 1-2. 15-18  
**Response:** Taste and see that the Lord is good.  
**Second Reading:** Ephesians 5: 21-32  
**Gospel:** John 6 : 60-69  
**Intercessions Response:**  
Lord, graciously hear us

**Mass Texts: Sunday 22 (Yr B)**

**First Reading:** Deuteronomy 4: 1-2. 6-8  
**Response:** The just will live in the presence of the Lord.  
**Second Reading:** James 1: 17-18. 21-22. 27  
**Gospel:** Mark 7: 1-8. 14-15. 21-23  
**Intercessions Response:**  
Lord, graciously hear us

## PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

### Why not be involved?

The Australian Bishops' Conference will be making decisions about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia on the basis of their careful discernment of the work of the Holy Spirit in the minds and hearts of all the People of God.

In the hope that we become a leaven of holiness, justice and reconciliation in today's rapidly changing society, Pope Francis has encouraged all Australians to participate in a period of patient dialogue and faith-filled discernment in a spirit of fraternal unity and missionary discipleship. He has invoked the Holy Spirit's gifts of wisdom, harmony and openness to the Lord's will for the future of the Church in Australia.

We are being called to help facilitate this preparatory process, which will culminate in Plenary Council's legislative processes, by undertaking a pilgrimage of genuine listening, praying and learning: being receptive, speaking honestly, and sharing insights with one another.

**What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?**

**What questions do you have about the future of the Church for the Plenary Council to consider in 2020?**

<http://plenarycouncil@sydneycatholic.org>

## Calendar

### AUGUST

#### 25/26 Sunday 21 in Ordinary Time

P/School Mass :9:00 am: Year 6  
Baptisms:12 noon  
Seniors Group: 2.00pm  
Youth Mass: 6.00pm

28 Parish Pastoral Council: 7.30pm

### SEPTEMBER

#### 1/2 Sunday 22 in Ordinary Time

**Fathers' Day**  
**Archdiocesan Priest's Retirement Appeal**

7 Vietnamese Confirmations

#### 8/9 Sunday 23 in ordinary Time

#### 15/16 Sunday 24 in Ordinary Time

#### 22/23 Sunday 25 in Ordinary Time

Youth Group: Sunday 7pm in Hall  
Young Adults: Sunday 7pm in Annexe

25 Casimir Graduation Mass: 11.00am  
Parish Pastoral Council: 7.30pm

#### **27 First Reconciliation—Parents' Information & Enrolment Night at 7pm in Shrubland Hall**

28 Term 3 ends

## Sunday Mass Ministries: Sunday 21 & Sunday 22 Year B

### Lectors/Commentators

### Communion Ministers

### Altar Servers

	25/26 August	1/2 September	25/26 August	1/2 September	25/26 August	1/2 September
<b>5 pm Sat</b>	Gabrielle Bietola Paul Cloran	Mary Leask Michael Price	Mary Leask Maia Fuller Paul Hurst Shelley Hopper	Elizabeth Delaney SGS Carole Price Michael Price Carmel Cloran Paul Cloran	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi Taleah Teixeira Luke Nguyen Jade Picknell
<b>7.30am Sun</b>	Pat O'Reilly Carolan Ibbotson	Janice Schubach Margaret Kelly Susie Houssarini	Maree Doyle Margaret Kelly Janice Schubach Theresa James	Mary Enriken Maria Mansour John Freeman	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
<b>9 am Sun</b>	ST BRIGID'S SCHOOL	John Skinner Bec Wong	Christina Day Peter Jennings Judith Flett John Skinner Therese Skinner	Frank Cowell Jenny Oesman Justin Hartany Joanne McGrath		Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa
<b>10.30 am Sun</b>	Mely Siasat Italian Reader Kate Johnston	Bernadette Yammine Italian Reader Catherine Vagnozzi	Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine + 4	Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco George Harb	Geoffrey Lean A & A de Vera	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia Vincent Putrasung Analese Maroun Eliza Maroun
<b>6 pm Sun</b>	YOUTH	Arthur Kassis Robert Gascoigne	YOUTH	Kristy Cloran David Cloran Anthony Kassis Alex Kassis Lea Paladino	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek Kassandra Micallef Jarred Alcausin