



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](https://www.facebook.com/StBrigidMarrickville)

Administrator: Fr Erick Niyiragira CP (pp@stbrigid.org.au)

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

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

Fr Thomas Nguyen CP (thomas.thanh@stbrigid.org.au)

Br Tony Simbel CP (tony@stbrigid.org.au)

Sue King (SRE Co-ordinator & Parish Safeguarding Support Officer)
catechetics@stbrigid.org.au

John Nguyen (Youth Minister) youthministry@stbrigid.org.au

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

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

Sunday 25 in Ordinary Time - Year B

BEING FAITHFUL TO THE WAY OF JESUS:

It's a well-known fact that many men read a newspaper backwards. This is because of their great interest, even fanatical interest, in sport. Their interest extends to all kinds of sports, even sports played in other countries. They may have noticed, then, that a while back the New York Yankees baseball team paid \$30 million for a new star performer. As a result, they began to win games galore.

What's clear here, there, and everywhere is that the club with the most money can buy a champion team. What's also clear is that the famous saying of American football coach Vince Lombardi rings bells with many people: 'Winning isn't everything,' he said, 'It's the only thing.'

No doubt about it! Achievement, winning, success, being number one, and beating all opposition are among the strongest values of human beings everywhere. For that very reason, the parish bulletin, like cigarette packets, might have carried a counter-cultural warning today. It might have read: 'Warning! Hearing and listening to the Word of God today might cause you dizziness, confusion, and disorientation!'

Why do I say that? Because the message God gives us today is so different. In a nutshell, What God is telling us is that he is not asking us to be successful but to be faithful. Jesus in particular is putting that path of fidelity to us no matter what our fidelity may cost us. In his case the price he paid for fidelity was the way of the cross - the way of pain, torture and humiliation. It was a path that would finally lead to victory, the victory of the resurrection. But to reach that victory he had to first pass through all the agony of his Passion and Death.

While I sense that the way of Jesus is 'the road less travelled' for most human beings, there are significant exceptions. One striking exception is a Sister Mary, who works in a health service for

homeless people in London. After working most of her life as a doctor in Africa, she came home to England. She was horrified to discover enormous numbers of people living homeless on the streets of the capital. It made her angry that in such a wealthy country there could be so many people who were so poor, so uncared for, and so unloved. So rather than retire, she set herself to work for the homeless people she saw everywhere, including the offer of a free medical service.

One day, a man who had been homeless for about 30 years came into one of the hostels for the homeless. He was about 55 and had been abusing alcohol and other drugs for nearly forty years. When he arrived he couldn't have been any dirtier. His entire body, clothes, hair and face were covered with a thick matted mess of dirt, vomit, and dried blood. There were even lice crawling on his skin. To protect the other residents, the warden of the hostel insisted that he could stay only if he had a bath. But the man refused point-blank.

Even on a bitterly cold January night in London, he would prefer to go back to the streets rather than take a bath. A male volunteer tried to talk to him, to reason with him, but he kept raving and shouting all kinds of nonsense and would not listen at all. So, the volunteer called his boss, Sister Mary, for advice. She said she would come and talk to him. She arrived after a few minutes. She said nothing. She just sat down beside him and held both his hands in hers. Instantly, he stopped shouting and began to weep. For a long time, he said nothing and just sobbed his heart out. And then, after what seemed like an eternity he said: 'That's the first time anyone has touched me like that in twenty years.'

Softened by that touch, he had a bath, a shave, and a haircut, and put on a clean set of clothes. Within an hour he was a new man. But the real was what happened next. From that day to this he

has never again drunk alcohol or used drugs. Within 3 months he found a job and moved out of the temporary hostel into his own flat. That one moment of grace—of love and compassion communicated—has changed his life forever!

So Jesus really means what he is saying to us now: 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me...' I cannot think of a more powerful illustration of his teaching than the story of Sr Mary and the homeless man. It leaves me in no doubt that the essence of true greatness is found in loving, serving, and helping others, and being the best, we can be in doing that.

Surely then, an authentic life is not about seeking those people who can do things for us, but those for whom we can do things, and do them with the humility, kindness, gentleness, care, compassion and grace practised by Jesus himself, and doing them without any thought of reward or recognition other than believing and knowing that this is the way and will of Jesus. His way and will surely, for both you and me!

Can we rise to the challenge?

Fr Brian Gleeson CP
bgleesoncp@gmail.com

Parish Team

This week we welcome **Sr Elenita CP** from her home leave with her family in the Philippines (get ready for the slideshow!).

We also say a brief 'Farewell' to **Fr Thomas CP** who will be away on retreat for the next week, returning to the Parish next weekend (can we cope without him?)

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.

T.S Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral"

Shows 27 Sep-14 Oct. Venue: 1880 Hall, St Peter's Surry Hill. Group Tix (Gps of 7 or more) from \$30.00. Bookings ESSENTIAL via www.theword.org.au OR phone 1800 101 201.

Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

St Mary's Cathedral on 7 October 2018 at 2.00pm, join the Dean to pray the HOLY ROSARY. Prayer intentions will be: the Family, the Rekindling of Faith and the Sanctification of the Church and Clergy.

Catholics for Renewal

September Newsletter including editorial on Bishops' Response to the Royal Commission, paper by David Timbs on "Priest shortage" and an open letter to Pope Francis on "the Pope as a Game Changer". www.catholicsforrenewal.org.au

Archdiocesan Social Justice Gathering

"A Place to Call Home: Making a Home for Everyone in our Land"

This will be the last gathering of the year! A chance to renew or begin relationships with social justice reps from other parishes. Guest speakers, delicious lunch and refreshment during the day, easy public transport.

When; Saturday 20 October, 10.30am-3.30pm

Where: St Columba's Parish Hall, 213 Elswick St, Leichhardt Nth.

Cost: FREE—RSVP ESSENTIAL for catering on 9307 8465 OR jpointo@sydneycatholic.org

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

A weekend journey of spiritual healing to help women and men overcome the painful effects of an abortion experience—renew, rebuild in a safe, confidential and non-judgmental environment with trained spiritual counsellors. The last retreat for this year will be on 16-18 November.

Further details: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au.

Confidential voicemail number: 0400 092 555

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 OR www.palms.org.au

For your Diary.....

"Voices for Justice": 1-4 December 2018 in Canberra

Organised by Micah Australia and supported by Act for Peace. Gather with hundreds of Christians to lobby MPs and senators on the importance of rebuilding Australian aid to world's poor and vulnerable. Registrations now open. 1800 025 101 OR info@actforpeace.org.au.

Epiphany Pilgrimage: the journey of the Magi **Looking for a different way to start 2019?**

A 7-day, not-for-profit, 110 km Catholic pilgrimage through the Blue Mountains commencing at Emu Plains on 2 January 2019 and finishing at Bell on 8 January 2019. Further Info and Registration: www.epiphanypilgrimage.org



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
- 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
- Parish Safeguarding Support Officer:** Sue King
- Pastoral Council Co-chairs** Peter Jennings,
Arthur Kassis
- Youth Ministry:** John Nguyen & Oliver Bautista

Parish Collections

Counters: This week (24/9): Jim/Lalo/Maree
Next Week(1/10): Jim/Lalo/Maree

16/9/18

1st (Passionists): \$ 2,005
2nd (Parish): \$ 4,057
Cash & Envelopes: \$ 2,918
Credit Cards: \$ 1,138

9/9/18.

1st (Passionists) : \$ 2,000
2nd (Parish): \$ 4,450

**Calling ALL Youth, Musicians,
Parishioners and Priests**

MASTERCLASS
**"Running a Successful
Catholic Youth Mass"**

Sunday 7 October 2018
1.30-6.00pm

(followed by Youth Mass)

Parish of Our Lady of the Way, North Sydney

Presented by: Michael Paton,
Graduate of Sydney Conservatorium of Music
Composer, teacher, and currently Youth and Music
Minister at North Sydney

(Light Supper Included)

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney
Safeguarding Office

***If you or anyone close to you has been abused by
someone working or ministering within the Archdio-
cese 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 Integ-
rity Office on: 9390 5812***

We Remember

Recently Deceased: Ellen McGovern; Isabel Martins; Friedrun Heberstein.

Anniversaries: Ann Phipps; Victoria Climax; Irene James ; Mate Tuimaseve; Donald Buck; Luthgarda Cortezano.

Carrying Severe Illness: Fr Petrus Baruwake CP; Mary Harb; Lucja Suter.

Mass Texts: Sunday 25 (Yr B)

First Reading: Wisdom 2: 12. 17-20
Response: The Lord upholds my life, give
praise to his name!
Second Reading: James 3: 16—4: 3
Gospel: Mark 9: 30-37
Intercessions Response:
Lord, graciously hear us

Mass Texts: Sunday 26 (Yr B)

First Reading: Numbers 11: 25-29
Response: The precepts of the Lord gladden
your heart.
Second Reading: James 5: 1-6
Gospel: Mark 9:38-43. 45. 47-48
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.
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.

WORLD ROSARY

6/7 October 2018

Come and join the St Brigid's parish community
as well as parishes throughout our country
and the world in saying the
Holy Rosary on October 7th
after the 10.30 Mass (11.45am)
at the Calvary Shrine in the church grounds



Calendar

SEPTEMBER

22/23 Sunday 25 in Ordinary Time

23 Youth Group: Sunday 7pm in Hall
Young Adults: Sunday 7pm in Annexe
Catechists' Mass: Cathedral at 2.00pm

25 Casimir Graduation Mass: 11.00am

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

28 Term 3 ends

29/30 Sunday 26 in Ordinary Time

Social Justice Sunday

OCTOBER

1 **Public Holiday Mass only: 9.00am**

6/7 Sunday 27 in Ordinary Time

Baptism Preparation: 10.00am in Annexe
Holy Rosary: Calvary Shrine at 11.45am

10 Re-Opening of Minehan Court, Block D
Parish Maintenance Committee: 7.15pm

11 Marrickville Ministers' Fellowship

13/14 Sunday 28 in Ordinary Time

Sunday Mass Ministries: Sunday 25 & Sunday 26 Year B

	22/23 September	29/30 Sept	22/23 September	29/30 Sept	22/23 September	29/30 September
5 pm Sat	Gabriella Bietola Paul Cloran	5th Sunday Please Volunteer at all masses	Mary Leask Maria Fuller Paul Hurst Shelly Hopper	5th Sunday— Please Volunteer at all masses	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi Taleah Teixeira Jade Picknell	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi Taleah Teixeira Jade Picknell
7.30a m Sun	Pat O'Reilly Carolan Ibbotson		Maree Doyle Margaret Kelly Janice Schubach Theresa James		Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
9 am Sun			Kath Walton Pedro Moreira Diane Moreira Peter Jennings Christina Day Judith Flett		Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen	Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen
10.30 am Sun	Mely Siasat' Kate Johnston Italian Reader		George Harb Mely Siasat		Geoffrey Lean A & A de Vera Vincent Putrasung Analese Maroun Eliza Maroun	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia Vincent Putrasung Analese Maroun Eliza Maroun
6 pm Sun	YOUTH		YOUTH		Tony Hayek Kassandra Micallef Jarred Alcausin	Tony Hayek Kassandra Micallef Jarred Alcausin