



# 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 (Now 935 likes)**

Parish Priest: Fr John Pearce CP ([pp@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:pp@stbrigid.org.au))

Associates: Fr Peter Gardiner CP ([peter@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:peter@stbrigid.org.au))

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Darren Dela Rosa ([darren.delarosa212@gmail.com](mailto:darren.delarosa212@gmail.com))

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

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

## 1st Sunday of Advent (Yr.C)

### Homily of Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv, Passionist Diaconate Ordinations 21 Nov 2015

"Life is a journey, if only you hold the map." Yes, if only we hold the map in our hand, we can avoid the pitfalls and dangers along the way: we can travel as safely and as quickly as possible to our destination. But the trouble is that kind of map just does not exist. More often than not, our life journeys are – like the exodus of old – riddled with uncertainties, ambiguities and pitfalls of all kinds. What we need is not the magic Indiana Jones map; rather what we need is the willingness to be educated and formed by the journey.

Brs Thomas, Peter and Erick, your lives have been a journey with many twists and turns. In fact, like the Beatles song, the road has been long and winding, except that you might not have predicted that it would lead you here today. Thomas, at the age of 12, you were sent to a parish house designed for those aspiring to the diocesan priesthood. After graduation, you worked for a foreign medical company in Saigon and helped with HIV/AIDS patients and other marginalised people on the side.

It was at this time that you met Fr Jeff Foale who influenced your decision to begin a new phase of your life journey. Peter, you have moved many times in your life and I don't think you can stay put anywhere yet. From the central highland of Vietnam, you moved to the coast and then to Saigon for university and work. You have one thing in common with Andrew and Peter, which is being called while on the beach. Your enterprise, shipbuilding, was a bit more heavy going than fixing nets



Let's see if the saying, 'life is a beach' applies to your Passionist vocation. I doubt it.

Erick, you are the youngest of the three and yet you've probably travelled more mileage than most of us, both in geographical and psychological terms. At the age of 5, you underwent an ordeal that we cannot even imagine. The civil war in Burundi conjures up images of extreme violence. You and your family lived through it, not to mention 12 years in a refugee camp in Tanzania without your father. Mine lasted 16 months and I thought that it felt eternal at times. Australia is infinitely enriched by refugees like your family whose determination, resilience and resourcefulness are invaluable assets.

God sure works in mysterious ways bringing three of you from vastly different backgrounds into the

Passionist family. Your openness to the stirrings of the heart and the promptings of the Spirit has led you on a journey of great promise and blessing. The God who formed you in your mother's womb continues to reshape you into his likeness and his instrument.

In a way, what you are about to undergo today is part of the reshaping of your soul or the reconfiguration to Christ. Diaconate is not merely another formal step towards the ultimate dream of young seminarians. It should not be misconstrued merely as a wrung on the ecclesiastical ladder. That notion of ordination is in fact a travesty of Christian leadership and service. To enter the ordained ministry is not to commit oneself to a socially upward mobility. Quite the opposite is the case. It is, as St Paul reminds us in the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, a commitment to availabil-

## Family Prayer

### A Prayer for Peace

#### Our Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, our God, You said to Your disciples, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you." We come before You in humility and ask that Your peace which surpasses all understanding will descend upon all people around the world, especially those currently in conflict and at war.

Increase understanding and forgiveness between nations.

Awaken the longing for a peaceful life in all those who are filled with hatred for their neighbor.

Extinguish every dispute and banish all temptations to disagreement.

Grant wisdom to civil authorities.

Free those held captive, protect those in danger, and comfort those who are suffering and displaced.

Implant in all of us reverence for You, and confirm us in love for one another.

Make us worthy to celebrate the feast of Your holy nativity and to join with the angels in chanting: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill towards men."

For You are the King of Peace and the Savior of our souls and to You we give glory together with Your eternal Father and Your most-holy, gracious and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

## Diaconate Homily (cont)

ity, generosity and ultimately what we call the kenosis of Christ, the total self-giving to others.

So much of what is wrong with the Church today stems from the travesty of Christian leadership and service. We see this not only in the sexual abuse crisis, but also in the distortion of what it means to be a Christian leader. It happens when privilege, power and elitism are more evident than love, humility and servant-hood. Pope Francis has challenged us to reclaim the radical vision of the Gospel in terms of moving out of our comfort zone, labouring at the coalface and the periphery. It is to have the smell of the sheep, to walk with people, identifying with them in their struggles, their questions and their uncertainties. Until we have reclaimed diakonia, the Church will be less than what Christ intends it to be.

When I was in the seminary in Vietnam, I was very much influenced by the strong clerical culture that exalted the status of the priest. It came to me as a culture shock that the priesthood was anything but an ultimate achievement in Australia. Even as a bishop I have to do my own shopping, cooking and washing. I don't have people at my beck and call. Some might mourn the loss of clerical power and try to restore it.

Others however, myself included, see this as an opportunity to live Christian discipleship without the baggage of clericalism.

### Thomas, Peter and Erick.

Your ordination today brings joy, hope and even renewal to us, the Church in Australia and your Passionist Province are rejuvenated by your youthfulness, reinvigorated by your commitment and enriched by your gifts. Even though we do not know when the better future for the Church might be, especially here, we are comforted and strengthened by your companionship. The journey might be uncertain but it will be less daunting when walked together knowing that Christ's love for us is never ending. He alone is our map and our guide.

"The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve and give his life for many." Let these words, be your motto of life especially as deacons. Let it guide your ministry and form you as the minister of the Gospel. May you not be afraid to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body the Church. May Mary accompany you with her maternal love, her intercession and her example of faithful and humble discipleship.

**Holy Cross Templestowe**

## WYD for State High School Students

### Parish

#### Face Book Page

Now we have **934** friends. And we are still growing. Hopefully we will have **1000** friends by Christmas. Invite your friends to join us.



300-500 words (or submit artwork with a reflection) about why you would like to go to WYD as a pilgrim, then have your entry endorsed by your Parish Priest and contact CCD Sydney on 9307 8330 asap or email office@ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au for parental permission form and further information.

### Win the way to World Youth Day in Poland via Prague in July 2016

CCD Sydney supports Parish Catechists and is holding a competition for current Year 9 & 10 public school students to win free pilgrimages to World Youth Day 2016. **To enter**, handwrite



From The Domain at 1pm this Sunday.



## Information Directory

### CatholicCare Family Help Line

1300 1300 52

### St Brigid's Primary School

9558 6926

### Casimir Catholic College

9558 2888

### Catholic Church Marriage Tribunal

9390 5120

### Baptisms

**Preparation:** 1st Sundays 10am

**Presentation:** 2nd Sunday Masses

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

### Marriages

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** Fr John  
**Cultural C'tee** Maria Barlow-Sawaszenko  
**Ecumenical & Interfaith** John McGrath  
 Sr Pat Bowthorpe FMM  
**Family Groups** Carole Price  
**Finance C'tee** Michael Curran  
**Justice & Peace** Peter Jennings  
**Liturgical Ministries** Fr John, Sr Elena  
**Men's Club:** Arthur Kassis, John Skinner,  
 Mick Ward  
**Pastoral Council** Paige Bullen,  
 Peter Jennings, Adrian Harverson.  
**Youth & Young Adults:** Darren De la Rosa

### Parish Web Site

We have grown to **935 friends**.  
 Tell your friends about us.  
 Can we get to **1000** by Christmas?

## Liturgical Timetable

**Mon—Fri:** Masses: 6.45 am, 9.00 am; Wednesday 7.00 pm  
 Eucharistic Adoration: 7.15-8.45am. Benediction: 8.45am

### Public Hols: Mass 9.00am

**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); 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 4th Fridays. Also available on request and recommended before attending hospital for major surgery.

## We Remember

**Recently Deceased:** ..Joao Ribeiro; Marianna Guerreiro

**Anniversaries:** ..Jose Dos Santos; Sr Midge Nipperess RSM; James Jennings; Joe Townsend; John Blackall; Mark & Peter Maihi; Maria Vu Thi Tu.

**Recently Ill:** John Lizzio.

## Parish Collections

**Counters: This week (30/11)**

Lalo/Jim Maree

**Counters: Next Week (7/12)**

Jim's team

**21/22 November**

**1st (Passionists): \$ 2,350**

**2nd (Parish): \$ 4,701**

Cash & Envelopes: \$ ,3,450

Credit Cards: \$ 1,251

**14/15 November**

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

**2nd (Parish): \$ 3,888**

## Mass Texts: Advent 1 (Yr C)

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 33: 14-16

**Response:** . .To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul

**Second Reading:** .1 Thessal 3: 12-43

**Gospel:** Luke 21:25-28. 34-36

**Intercessions Response:**

Lord, graciously hear us

## Mass Texts: Advent 2 (Yr C)

**First Reading:** Baruch 5: 1-9

**Response:** What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

**Second Reading:** Philipp 1:3-6.8-11

**Gospel:** Luke 3: 1-6

**Intercessions Response**

Lord, graciously hear us

## Sunday Mass Ministries: Advent 1 and Advent 2 (Yr C)

### Lectors/Commentators

### Communion Ministers

### Altar Servers

	28/29 November	5/6 December	28/29 November	5/6 December	28/29 November	5/6 December
<b>5 pm Sat</b>	Mary Leask Adrienne Harverson Yvonne Kearsey	Liz Carnabuci Susie Houssarini Michael Price	William Metlej Liz Buchel Ji Yeo Leila Walsh Margaret Dos Santos	Elizabeth Delaney SGS Carole Price Michael Price Carmel Cloran Paul Cloran Adrienne Harverson	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Visesio Siasau Joseph Kula Alycia Young	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Visesio Siasau Joseph Kula Alycia Young
<b>7.30am Sun</b>	John Lizzio John Freeman Janice Schubach	Janice Schubach Marg Barrett Margaret Kelly	Mary Entriiken John Freeman Michael Dillon	Mary Entriiken Denis Habermann Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
<b>9 am Sun</b>	John McGrath Kath Walton Frank Wassef	John Skinner Therese Skinner Bec Wong	Joanne McGrath John McGrath Jennie Oesman Sue King	Frank Cowell Jennie Oesman Justin Hartany Jose Hartany Jessica Hartany	Theodore Bullen Adrian Begg Michael Moreira Claude Walton Louis Walton Jacqueline Flett Nicholas Sourlas	Xavier Rego Naomi Rego Natasha Rego Olivia Moreira Ivy Bullen Fergus Bullen
<b>10.30 am Sun</b>	Ted Bain Italian Reader Terry Reyes	Bernadette Yammine Italian Reader Maria Barlow	Geoffrey Lean Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco Terry Reyes Lope Reyes	Fiona Paul Jessica Paul Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco George Harb	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia John Dorrington	Geoffrey Lean Aldrick De Vera Alfred De Vera James Poonan
<b>6 pm Sun</b>	Arthur Kassis Robert Gascoigne	John Kevin Wendy Mason	Jackie Kassis Anthony Kassis Alex Kassis Arthur Kassis Thomas Hill	Darren de la Rosa Kristy Cloran David Cloran Anthony Kassis Alex Kassis	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek

# Parish Calendar 2015 & Coming Events

## Passionist Ministries

**Frs Peter & George** at St Brigid's.

**Fr Lex & Peter**, Marriages

**Fr John** at functions for Year of Consecrated Life (28th)

**Fr John** in Melb for Fr Kevin Hennessy's 40th Anniv of Ordination & Province Finance Council Meeting (29th)

**Fr Ron** on annual leave.

**Fr John** at Catholic Youth Festival Adelaide (2nd-7th)

### 1 Dec: Thanksgiving Gathering of our Ministers

This is for members of all Committees and Ministry Groups and starts at 7pm. Drinks and supper provided.

### 2-6 Dec: Australian Catholic Youth Festival

Held in Adelaide. There is a Passionist Youth gathering before and after at the Glen Osmond Retreat Centre.

### 4 Dec: Men's Club

December gathering at the Gladstone Hotel at 6.30 for raffles and 7.30 for dinner. A great social group, open to all men. Contact Mick 0412 012 114

### 5 Dec: Boarding House Christmas Party

We are asking your help with basic gifts: Men's t-shirts, socks, toiletries are urgently needed; Women's toiletries and perfumes. Gift boxes at the back of the Church ...

### Wrapping on Thursday 3rd Dec at 9.30 in the Hall

... Helpers needed to make this party special for our friends. Please bring a plate of food to share.

### 8 Dec: Start of the Year of Mercy

This will be a regular focus for the coming 12 months of the Church's Life. Compassion and mercy are at the heart of the Gospel, the heart of the Passionist Charism.

### 9 Dec: Marrickville Multifaith Roundtable

Executive Meeting to plan for 2016.

### 11 Dec: City Deanery Meeting (5pm)

### 12 Dec: Marrickville Community Carols

Once again we host the Marrickville Community Carols, celebrating the Songs of Christmas, enjoying some food and refreshments, and good company.

**9am set up the grounds, Can you help us?**

**6pm Barby/food for sale 7-9pm Carols**

**8.55pm Fireworks and Finale.**

Pass the word to friends. Once again our MC is the very talented John Jacobs from Casimir College.

[john.jacobs@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:john.jacobs@syd.catholic.edu.au)

### 16 Dec: Last School Day for 2015

Congratulations and farewell to our wonderful Year 6's from the many schools they attend. Best wishes as you set out on the new adventure in Yr.7 High Schools.

### 18 Dec: Italian Mass & Morning Tea (10.30am)

### Pre-Christmas mass at Patrick Minahan Village

## 28-29 1st Sunday of Advent

**Boarding House Appeal**

**Secret Santa Appeal**

## December

1 Parish Thanksgiving (7-9pm)

4 Men's Club (7.30pm)

5 **Boarding House Christmas**

## 5-6 2nd Sunday of Advent

**Secret Santa Appeal for people living alone**

7 Catechists Mass (10am)

SB School Grad Mass (7pm)

8 **Start of the Year of Mercy**

Deacon Erick arrives .

10 SB School Mass (11)

11 Casimir End of Year Mass (12.30)

Deanery Meeting (5pm)

12 Carols in the Monastery Gardens (6-9pm)

## 12-13 3rd Sunday of Advent

**Secret Santa Appeal for people living alone**

**Vinnies Christmas Appeal (3rd Collection)**

14-15 Provincial Council Meets

18 Mass at Patrick Minehan Village

## 19-20 4th Sunday of Advent

21-23 Reconciliation available after morning Masses.

23 Set up Church for Christmas

**No Mass on Wednesday nights until after Australia Day.**

23 Mass at 9am only.

24 **Christmas Eve Masses**

5pm Vietnamese; 6pm, 9pm, 11.30/12am

## Interchurch Advent Programme



## Saints, Sages or Sorcerers

### Three Advent Studies.

The group shall gather on Thursdays in December at 7-8.15pm

### Week 1: Thurs 3rd Dec ~ **Behind the story**

Read: Isaiah 60.1-7 @ St Joseph's Catholic Newtown.

### Week 2: Thurs 10th Dec ~ **Matthew's Christmas**

**Postscript** Read: Matthew 2.1-17 @ Metropolitan Community Church Petersham.

### Week 3: Thurs 17th Dec ~ **Melchior, Caspar &**

**Belthazar** (at St Luke's) Read: Psalm 72 @ St Luke's Anglican Enmore.

**Enquiries: Tom and Anna**

[tomandna@netscape.net](mailto:tomandna@netscape.net)

**Please bring your Bible along!**



## Passionists

AU-NZ-PNG-VN  
Today

[www.passionists.com](http://www.passionists.com)

