



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

392 Marrickville Rd (PO Box 237), Marrickville NSW 2204

Tel: 02 8577 5670 Fax: 02 8577 5679



Email: parish@stbrigid.org.au

Web: www.stbrigid.org.au

FaceBook: **St Brigid's Marrickville (Now 1,300 likes)**

Parish Priest: Fr Tim O'Toole CP (pp@stbrigid.org.au)

Fr Erick Niyiragira CP (erick@stbrigid.org.au)

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

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

Sue King (SRE Co-ordinator) catechetics@stbrigid.org.au

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

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

Sunday 17 Year A 29/30 July 2017

WHAT MATTERS MOST

An elderly lady in Scotland was so poor her that her neighbours had to support her. They were happy to do this. But what bothered some of them was that her son had gone to America, and had become rich. The mother defended her son, saying: 'He writes to me every week and always sends me a little picture.' 'See,' she said, 'I always keep them in my Bible.' Between the pages of her Bible were hundreds of U.S.A. bank notes, cash galore. The woman had a money treasure in her Bible, but didn't realise it.

That story, and the stories Jesus told to make his point about belonging to the kingdom of God and doing what God wants, offer us a challenge that we need to take seriously.

Let me tell you of one group of people who have responded to that challenge. Over the entrance to a Catholic School in Fiji, there is a large sign which reads: 'Enter to learn. Leave to serve.' That sign proclaims loudly and clearly the values of that school and how it understands its role. That sign is in harmony with the teaching of Jesus today about what matters most. In his message to us Jesus uses a new set of images and comparisons to highlight the things what matter most of all.

Jesus teaches us that the most important and the most urgent thing in life is to find out just what God wants of us, and to do it. This is what he means when he urges us to be as single-minded, as focussed, and as dedicated, as someone who digs up a treasure in a field, re-buries it, and hurries off to buy that field, so that he can have that treasure all to himself. Jesus makes the same point about priorities when he urges us to be as single-minded, as focussed, and as dedicated, as a collector of jewellery, who comes across the finest pearl in the world, and sells all personal possessions in order to acquire it.

King Solomon was one of the most successful kings in Jewish history. He became famous as both a brilliant builder and a wise ruler. Like Jesus, he also strove to know and to do God's will. Unlike Jesus, however, his life-style was not completely faithful to God. It was not totally consistent with his ideals. All too often, like too many other human beings, he gave in to lust and was unfaithful in marriage, and that more than once.

Yet he got the theory right as we learn from the prayer he prays in our First Reading today. He reminds God that he is a young man, unskilled in leadership. So, he prays: 'Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' God heard his prayer by giving him greater wisdom than any ruler before or since. God heard his prayer precisely because the king did not ask for personal gain in any form. He did not, e.g., ask for long life, money, riches, power, or victory over enemies. In asking for wisdom only, it was for the service of others that Solomon prayed, and this unselfish prayer pleased the Lord immensely.



Against this background of the Word of God today, let's return to the aptness of that sign at the entrance to that Catholic school in Fiji: 'Enter to Learn. Leave to Serve'. There's no mention there to the graduating students of leaving to get the job that will get them the most money to spend on themselves. There's no mention there of leaving to join the ever-bigger numbers of human beings, for whom a career path is not about loving and serving others, but about financial rewards, personal satisfaction, comfort and pleasure. The message of that school motto, on the contrary, is to go out from school to make a difference, to serve the well-being of others, to make the world a better place to live in. In other

Calendar

JULY 2017

29/30 **Sunday 17 Year A**
 29 Our Lady of Snows: 11.30am
 San Lupo :1.00pm
 30 Our Lady of Snows: 1.30pm

AUGUST 2017

5/6 **Transfiguration**
 Vocations Awareness Week begins
CWF Appeal (1)
 Baptism Preparation: 10.00am
 8 **St Mary of the Cross at 9.00am**
 11 Young Adults: 8pm in Annexe
 12/13 **Sunday 19 Year A**
 Vocations Awareness Week ends
 15 Feast of the Assumption
 19/20 **Sunday 20 Year A**
 Baptisms: 12 noon
 22 Parish Pastoral Council: 7.30pm
 24 Finance Committee: 7.30pm
 26/27 **Sunday 21 Year A**
 National Day for Migrants & Refugees
 St Brigid's Yr 6 Mass: 9am
 Baptisms: 12 noon
 Youth in Hall: 7pm
 Young Adults in Annexe: 7pm

words, to go out and work with God for the coming of God's kingdom on earth - a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of goodness and love, a kingdom of justice and love, joy and peace. That's exactly what God wants.

That school's motto, 'Enter to Learn. Leave to Serve' is an invitation from Jesus Christ not only to those students in Fiji but to you and me as well. How will we hear it? How will we heed it? Will our corner of the world be any better for our being here? Will we make a difference by the quality and the quantity of our unselfishness, our generosity, our loving, our caring, our helping, and our serving? Will we, in fact, want to live with the same sense of purpose as that expressed many years ago by a young man called Stephen Gallet. These are his inspirational words: 'I shall pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.'

In response to the message to us from Jesus our Teacher in our Readings today, will we, in fact, be more determined than ever, to live as true images, true mirrors, true reflections of Jesus Christ to others? Will we, as two of today's colloquial sayings express it, 'just go for it' and 'just do it'? Will we? bgleesoncp@gmail.com

BUSY WEEKEND FOR OUR CHURCH

This weekend we welcome amongst us members of the Italian Community from the mountain village San Lupo who celebrate their Saint and patron. Also we welcome members of our Portugese community from the island of Madeira who celebrate the Our Lady of the Snow. During the week we also farewelled with requiem masses Ceceilia Nadile, Elizabeth Rankin, Lina Mazzitelli and Giong Kim Am. Let's remember their families in prayer this weekend.

CHARITABLE WORKS APPEAL 2017-2018

NEXT WEEKEND—5/6 AUGUST 2017

This is the First Appeal for the 2017-2018 Tax Year and contributions are 100% tax deductible. Our new Target for the coming year is **\$26,100.00, or \$8,700.00 per appeal**, and all your contributions will assist greatly in helping us to reach this target, as any shortfall has to be made up from parish funds. **The more parishioners contribute, the less we have to take from other funds AND your donations will attract a 100% tax deduction.**

CENTENARY CROSS

In 2015 the Parish celebrated 100 years since the Passionists took possession of Shrubland Estate and opened the new monastery. At the time the Pastoral & Finance Councils decided to commission a large Celtic Cross to be built in the Church forecourt to remember all who had walked on this land, from the Aboriginal peoples, to the migrant peoples from early days, to us who are here today. On advice of the builders, we decided on a granite cross, as it was thought a sandstone cross would not last forever. Now in July 2017, the Centenary Cross has come to birth. Over the next week or so the cross will be erected in the forecourt of our church.

PLANNED GIVING—WEEKLY ENVELOPES 2017/2018

Please be sure to use only 2017-2018 envelopes and destroy any earlier envelopes.

Also available for collection are : Planned Giving receipts 1/7/2016 to 31/12 2016 together with those for CWF Appeal 2016/2017 and Project Compassion 2017 . **They will remain in the church until the end of July, after which time they will be available for collection from the Parish Office.**

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL

THANK YOU to all who contributed by donating to the appeal over the past two weekends. A total of **\$2,482.70** has been forwarded to Catholic Mission for its ongoing work with those in need.

RCIA - 2017-2018 (

(RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

If you are not Catholic but interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, OR, if you are a Catholic who would like to deepen your knowledge of your faith, the

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 Sun-
days at 12 noon

Marriages

Preferably 6 months notice
Contact: Parish Secretary
8577 5670

Pastoral Ministry Con- tacts:

Adult Sacraments Sr
Elena

Care of Sick & Aged Sr
Elena

CCD in State Schools
Sue King

Children's Sacraments
Sr Elenita

Cultural Committee Chair
George Harb

**Ecumenical & Interfaith
Co-chairs** John McGrath,
Pat Bowthorpe FMM

Family Groups Contact
Adrienne and John Harver-
son

Acting Finance C'tee Chair

Mary Leask
**Justice & Peace Network
Chair** Peter Jennings

Liturgical Ministries Fr
Tim, Sr Elena

Men's Club Co-chairs: Ar-
thur Kassis, John Skinner,
Mick Ward

Pastoral Council Co-chairs
Paige Bullen, Peter Jennings,

Youth & Young Adults:
TBA

RCIA programme at St Brigid's will be commencing soon. The programme will culminate in welcoming new Catholic into the parish at Easter next year. If interested, please contact Sr Elena or the Parish Office.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 7-9 December 2017

It's a Catholic Festival a bit like World Youth Day!

Already 13,000 have enrolled, and we, as a parish, hopefully will be well represented. There are lots of ways to be involved, including providing accommodation for up to 30 young members of our Passionist parishes throughout Australia. *Can you help us with accommodation for a few nights?*

NEW SINGERS WELCOME!

For Sunday 10.30am Mass—if you have a reasonable ear for music and enjoy singing at Mass, why not come along and join us? For further information, please pop upstairs to the choir loft before or after mass and see Mary or Terry.

"THEOLOGY ON TAP"

When: Monday August 7th at 6.30pm,

Where: The Rose Hotel (52-54 Cleveland St)

Sponsored by Notre Dame Chaplaincy.

<http://www.facebook.com/Theology-on-Tap>— 127369587336998

SYDNEY RUNNING FESTIVAL—17 September 2017

*The only day of the year the Harbour Bridge closes
for a running festival!*

This year, for the first time, Asylum Seekers Centre has joined as an official Charity Partner with Blackmore's Sydney Running Festival. This will be a great opportunity to increase the Centre's profile and raise awareness of the work it does. You can raise funds for the Centre by registering to run at www.sydneyrunningfestival.com.au and marking Asylum Seekers Cen-

We Remember

Recently Deceased: Van Am Nguyen; Tiep Vu, Joseph George; Pasqualina Mazzitelli.; Mary Gibara Hawa; Cecilia Nadile and Elizabeth Rankin

Anniversaries: ..;Daniel Guilfoyle; Eileen Minehan; Betty Scollard; Alfred Taylor; Timothy O'Brien; Thomas Bunch; Peter Buchel.

For our Sick: Bernadette Coelho; Kevin Smith; Sandra George; Lily Sterling; Richard Gonsalves; Maria Guilfoyle; Clare Fuller;.

Parish Collections

Counters: This week (31/7):
Jim/Lalo/ Maree

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

22/23 July1.

1st (Passionists): \$ 2,250

2nd (Parish): \$ 5,610

Cash & Envelopes: \$ 4,402

Credit Cards: \$ 1,208

15/16 July

1st (Passionists) : \$ 1,995

2nd (Parish): \$ 4,325

Mass Texts: Sunday 17 Yr A

First Reading: 1 Kings 3: 5. 7-12

Response: ..Lord, how I love your law!

Second Reading: Romans 8: 28-30

Gospel: Matthew 13: 44-52

Intercessions Response:

Lord, graciously hear us

Mass Texts: Sunday 18 Year A

First Reading: 1 Kings 3: 5. 7-12

Response: ..Lord, how I love your law!

Second Reading: Romans 8: 28-30.

Gospel: Matthew 13: 44-52

Intercessions Response:

Lord, graciously hear us

tre as your charity OR you could register as a volunteer marshal at Hyde Park, Oxford and Flinders Sts. . Phone Danijela on 9078 1953. OR e-mail danijela.spadina@sylumseekerscentre.org.au
A great way to spend a Sunday in Spring & support the Asylum Seekers Centre!

DAY RETREAT

***The Practice of the Presence of God:
a way through the pain of loss and grief.***

When: 5 August 2017 at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre from 10.30am to 4.00pm. Pick ups from Minto train station at 9.45am and 10.00am. Cost: \$25.00. BYO lunch. Enquiries: www.carmeliteretreats.com.au

CHRISTIANITY ACROSS THE AGES

A Journey of Faith and a Journey through the Evolution of Western Music

A presentation combined with story-telling by Marie Therese Levey rsj .Date: Sunday August 1, 1.30-4.00pm
Place: RSJ Regional Centre, 5 Alexandra Ave, Croydon.
Entry by voluntary donation—bookings ESSENTIAL on marie.levey@sosj.org.au

THE BISHOP'S BLEND

Looking to network with other young Catholic professionals & learn how to live your faith in the workplace? Join Most Rev Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney on Monday 7 August at 7.00am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel in Sydney for the Bishop's Blend, a quarterly breakfast series for young professionals. Guest address: Nick Santucci. Online booking ESSENTIAL

<https://thebishopsblend.eventbrite.com>

PLACE AT THE TABLE Twilight Reflection Evening

Wednesday 23 August, 6.30-8.30pm The Justice and Peace Office and Dinner in preparation for the Bishops' Social Justice Statement in September. Join with Bishop Randazzo and workers and volunteers from three dioceses. E-mail Kimberley.doyle@sydneycatholic.org

Liturgical Timetable

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

Public Hols: Mass 9.00am

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

Sunday: Mass at 7.30 am, 9 am, 10 .30am (multilingual); 4.30pm (Vietnamese); 6pm

Ministry of Support to Aged and Infirm

Mass is celebrated monthly in all the Aged Care facilities in Marrickville.

Communion is taken to sick residents in Aged Care facilities & in their homes on a weekly basis, by Ministers 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.

Lectors/Commentators

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

	29/30 July	5/6 August	29/30 July	5/6 August	29/30 July	5/6 August
5 pm Sat	Liz Buchel Michael Schiano	Mary Leask Michael Price	William Metlej Leila Walsh Margaret Dos Santos Jim Yeo	Elizabeth Delaney Carole Price Michael Price Carmel Cloran Paul Cloran	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi
7.30 Sun	John Freeman Janice Schubach	Margaret Kelly Susie Houssarini	Mary Entriiken John Freeman	Mary Entriiken Maria Mansour John Freeman	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
9 am Sun	John McGrath Kath Walton	John Skinner Bec Wong	Jennie Oesman Jessica Hartany Sue King Peter Jennings	Frank Cowell Jennie Oesman Justin Hartany Jessica Hartany Joanne McGrath John McGrath		
10.30 am Sun	Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine	Bernadette Yammine Italian Reader Catherine Vagnozzi	Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco Terry Reyes Lope Reyes	Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco George Harb	Geoffrey Lean Aldrick De Vera Alfred De Vera	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia
6 pm Sun	Arthur Kassis Robert Gascoigne	Arthur Kassis Robert Gascoigne	Jackie Kassis Tony Hayek Thomas Hill Alex Kassis Anthony Kassis	David Cloran Kristy Cloran Anthony Kassis Alex Kassis Lea Paladino	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek