

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



8th Sunday of the Year (Yr C) 2/3 March 2019

HELPFUL OR HARMFUL WORDS

A little boy was saying his bed-time prayers in a very soft voice. 'I can't hear you dear', his mother whispered. Back came his firm reply: 'Wasn't talking to you.' One day the philosopher, Aesop, was asked what is the most useful thing in the world. 'The tongue,' the philosopher replied. 'And what,' they asked, 'is the most harmful thing in the world?' 'The tongue,' he answered once more. A famous duchess once confessed to St Philip Neri in Rome the sin of gossiping. He told her to go home, get a feather pillow, and come back to the steps of the church. When he met her there, he handed her a small knife and asked her to rip open the pillow. As she did, she watched the loose feathers dance round and round the church square and along the adjoining lanes. 'Now go and pick up all those feathers,' Philip said. 'I can't possibly find and collect them all,' she replied. So Philip made his point: 'You have no idea either where your words go, and you can never unsay them.'

I think we would all agree that God's gift of speech, when it is used well - to build up others but not to put them down - is enormously useful. It encourages others, it develops friendships, it promotes sharing and community, and it brings joy. On the other hand, when our words are angry, bitter, sneering, cynical, sarcastic, spiteful, contemptuous and abusive, they can wreck the self-confidence of others, even contribute to the wrecking of a marriage or career.

No wonder then when the Wise One states in our First Reading today, 'the test of a person is in conversation'. Jesus too was well aware of the capacity of speech to do good or harm. So he has a particularly strong message for any of us with a tendency towards 'foot in mouth disease'.

Before we blurt out anything, Jesus wants us to be careful about how we think and feel about others and how we judge them. So, what a cheek we have

if, with our eyes blind to our own faults, acting like big logs in our line of vision, we find fault with our neighbour, whose faults, by comparison, may be like mere specks in the eye! How dare we then proceed to correct them! What hypocrisy!

Many of us find ourselves called to be leaders and guides. We may, e.g. be parents, teachers, and employers, and it's our job and responsibility to set and uphold standards, and to communicate both expectations and limits. But as the saying goes, 'it's not what you say, but the way that you say it', that makes all the difference. When persons receiving our guidance know that we are speaking to them with tact, kindness and generosity, when they see that we are practising what we preach, when they see us as good, genuine and consistent, and when they know that we are for them, not against them, then great progress can be made in leader-follower relationships.

On the other hand, the kind of responsibility for others that is expressed as 'don't do as I do, do as I say', which we frequently hear in arguments and rows on TV between parents and teenagers, gets nowhere.

Much of what Jesus is saying about this can be summed up in his wise words: 'Out of the goodness of the heart, a good person produces good, and out of a malicious heart, an evil person produces evil, for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.' We cannot afford to contract that kind of 'heart disease', those ways of thinking, feeling and living that leave us with hard hearts and cruel speech to or about other people.

On the other hand, Jesus has not taught that there is never a place for criticism, challenge, confrontation, and correction among his followers. Just that we have the responsibility to be very careful about what we say about others, and how we criticize and condemn them! Building and sharing a 'dirt file' on others and mangling their reputation can, in

Fact, be very harmful, evil and sinful.

It's appropriate then, that we give our hearts a regular check-up. I recommend that at the end of each day, we run a little performance review on ourselves. "How did I go today?", we might ask ourselves. "Whom did I meet today? What did I say to her? Was I helpful or hurtful? Was I a friend or foe? We might then round off our reflection (what used to be called 'an examination of conscience') with a prayer.

*For any inappropriate words,
a plea for mercy and forgiveness!
For all the good things we said,
a prayer of thanksgiving!*

bgleesoncp@gmail.com

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH!!!

ST BRIGID'S PARISH YOUTH GROUPS

Junior Youth—Years 7-9

Gathering: 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month

Senior Youth—Years 10-12

Gathering :2nd Sunday of each month

Adult Youth—18-25 years

Gathering: 4th Sunday of each month

If you would like to join in, please e-mail your details: name, age, e-mail address and phone to:

parish @stbrigid.org.au

Still Wanted.....

Thank you for the wonderful response to our appeal for books for the children's library in BARO, PNG. However, we are still looking for no longer wanted musical instruments in good condition (**string, wind or percussion**). **If you can help, please bring the instruments to the Parish Office asap** as the shipping container is being readied for Vanimo.

Piety Store

Newly arrived—mantillas in four colours; large variety of statues including our Lord and many saints; small bottles of Lourdes water @\$3.00 each.

Men Rise Up!

Saturday 16 March 2019 at St Christopher's Parish, Panania. 8.30am Mass with Bishop Randazzo followed by breakfast at 9.30am and presentation by Robert Haddad followed by Q&A. RSVP: www.trybooking.com/baach. Cost: \$10.00

Day of the Unborn Child

Sunday 24 March—Mass at 10.30am at St Mary's Cathedral. Angelus at 12 noon followed by Procession led by Bishop Randazzo. Benediction at Cathedral at 1.30pm.

Praying With The Doctors: St John of the Cross, St Teresa of Avila & St Therese of Lisieux

March 26-27 at Varroville. Cost \$135.

Gain an understanding of these Carmelite mystics with Fr Aloysius Rego OCD & Mr Geoff Stumbles. Enquiries: 8795 3400

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 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 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
Ecumenical & Interfaith Co-chairs
John McGrath, Pat Bowthorpe FMM
Family Groups Contact: Adrienne Harverson
Finance C'tee
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: Oliver Bautista

Parish Collections

Counters: This week (4/3): Lea's Team
Counters: Next Week (11/3): Jim/Maree/Lalo

24/2/19

1st (Passionists): \$ 1,780
2nd (Parish): \$ 3,707
Cash & Envelopes: \$ 2,461
Credit Cards: \$ 1,246

17/2/19

1st (Passionists) : \$ 1,910
2nd (Parish): \$ 4,001

ASH WEDNESDAY

6 MARCH 2019

Mass Times:

6.45am; 9.00am (incl Yr 3-6 P/School)

5.00pm Vietnamese Mass

7.00pm English Mass

LENTEN PROGRAMME 2019

Each Friday evening at 7.30pm in the Church:

8 March: The Temptation

15 March: The Transfiguration

22 March: The Burning Bush

29 March: The Prodigal Son

5 April: The Condemnation

12 April: The Passion

We Remember

Recently Deceased: Thi Kieu Bui;

Anniversaries: William Matthews; Anthony Casey; Dalal Touma; Ludwig Johann; Gregoria Latagan; Patric Lowe; Rong Van Ta; Joseph Toan Nguyen; Thomas O'Connor; Bishop Paul Doc Van Nguyen; Eric Whitby; Rodney Bayliss; Sid Fitzalan; Herbert Britter; Marie Naoum.; Manuel Rebelo.

Carrying Severe Illness: John Lizzio; Lena Buck; Mary Harb; Winifreda Jauco; Maria Tropea.

Mass Texts: Sunday 8 (Yr C)

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7
Response: It is good to give you thanks, O Lord, and sing of your love for us.
Second Reading: 1 Corin 15:54-58
Gospel: Luke 6 : 39-45
Intercessions Response: Lord, graciously hear us

Mass Texts: Lent 1 (Yr C)

First Reading: Deuteronomy 20: 4-10
Response: Be with me Lord in my distress.
Second Reading: Romans 10: 8-13
Gospel: Luke 4: 1-13
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, and at the 10am Italian mass on 4th Fridays. Also available on request and recommended before attending hospital for major surgery.

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY 2019

"GIVE LENT 100%"

The Readings for this Sunday prepare us for the coming Lenten season, a time for *prayer, fasting and alms-giving*.

Proclaiming justice is nourishing, the work of justice is life-giving. Caring for others keeps us connected to the spirit of God. It is by what we say and do, that people will see the face of God in our world.

Each year via Project Compassion
CARITAS AUSTRALIA

brings together thousands of Australians in schools, parishes and the community to stand in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities, to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity.

Please be sure to collect your Project Compassion boxes THIS weekend as we move towards the Lenten Season 2019

"The future does have a name... and its name is hope"
Pope Francis

Calendar

March 2019

2-3 8th Sunday of the Year

Ordination at Vigil Mass: 5pm

**3 Baptism Preparation : 10am in Annexe
Jnr Youth Gp in Hall: 7-9.00pm**

4 Catholic Schools Week begins

6 ASH WEDNESDAY

8 First Communion Reflection Day: Hall

8 Lenten Programme in Church: 7.30pm

9-10 First Sunday of Lent

First Communions at 5pm Vigil Mass and 10.30am Mass

**Baptismal Welcoming Mass: 9.00am
Snr Youth GP in Hall: 7-9pm**

15 Lenten Programme in Church: 7.30pm

16-17 Second Sunday of Lent

First Communions at 5pm Vigil Mass and 10.30am Mass

**Baptisms : 12 noon
Jnr Youth Gp in Hall: 7-9.00pm**

22 Lenten Programme in Church: 7.30pm

23-24 Third Sunday of Lent

**P/School Family Mass: 9am
Mass (incl First Scrutiny): 10.30am
Baptisms: 12 noon**

**Adult Youth in Hall: 7-9pm
Young Adults in Annexe: 7-9pm**

29 Lenten Programme in Church: 7.30pm

30-31 Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass (incl Second Scrutiny): 10.30am

April 2019

6-7 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass (incl Third Scrutiny): 10.30am

Sunday Mass Ministries: Sunday 8 and Lent 1 Year C

	Lectors/Commentators		Communion Ministers		Altar Servers	
	2/3 March	9/10 March	2/3 March	9/10 March	2/3 March	9/10 March
5 pm Sat	Mary Leask Michael Price Leila Walsh	Liz Buchel Margaret Dos Santos Michael Schiano	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
7.30am Sun	Janice Schubach Marg Barrett	Susie Houssarini Mary Leask	Susie Houssarini Maria Mansour Janice Schubach	Margaret Kelly Theresa James	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
9 am Sun	Sue King Bec Wong	Pedro Moreira Diane Moreira Kath Walton	Frank Cowell Jennie Oesman Justin Hartany Joanne McGrath John McGrath	Peter Jennings Judith Flett Francis Seufale Anna Aurea	Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen	Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen
10.30 am Sun	Bernadette Yammine Italian Reader Catherine Vagnozzi	Kate Johnston Italian Reader George Harb	Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco George Harb + 2 Italian	Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine + 2 Italian Ministers	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchi	Geoffrey Lean Aldrick De Vera Alfred De Vera
6 pm Sun	Arthur Kassis Robert Gascoigne	SNR YOUTH GROUP?????	Anthony Kassis Alex Kassis Lea Paladino	Arthur Kassis Jackie Kassis Tony Hayek Theresa Skinner	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek