



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 1,186 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 14 8/9 July 2017

JESUS COMFORTS AND ENCOURAGES

One of the most wonderful things about the person of Jesus has been and continues to be, his special love for ordinary people – for people like us. It comes out in two beautiful statements that he makes today. The first is in his prayer to God: 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children.' The second is in his invitation: 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest.'

What leads him to make these statements? He has just completed a tour of the towns and villages of Galilee. In all of them he has preached the truth that God is the King of the whole world, and so everyone must know, love and serve God as the Lord and Ruler of their lives. On many occasions too he has made the kingdom of God happen, by curing sick people and setting them free from their handicaps, disabilities and afflictions. But it's only the ordinary, everyday people who have appreciated his efforts, accepted his message and begun to follow him. The educated and clever have simply closed their minds and hearts to him, and walked away.

For the sake of developing our own personal relationship with Jesus, let us dip a little today into his relationship with those whom he called 'the poor' and 'the little ones'! They are the same ones whom the high and mighty Pharisees called 'sinners' or 'the rabble who know nothing of the law'. We might refer to them today as 'the strugglers', and 'the battlers'.

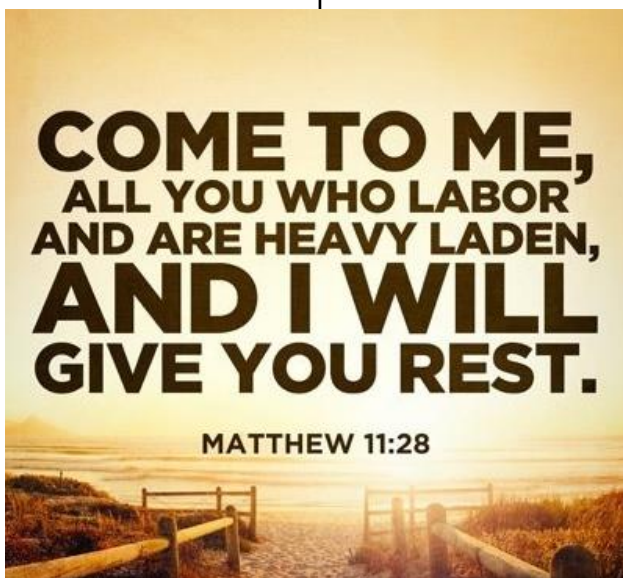
In the gospels, the term 'poor' doesn't refer only to those who had little or no money, even though it does include them. In the first place the poor were those who had to beg for a living. Of course in that society there were no hospitals, no Centrelink, and no pensions. So the blind, the deaf and dumb, the lame, the paralysed, the cripples and the lepers were generally beggars.

The economically poor included the day-labourers who were often without work, the peasants who worked on the farms of wealthy landowners, and those who were slaves. Then there were the widows and the orphans, who had no way of earning a living and no one to provide for them. They depended on occasional handouts from the Temple treasury.

The poor Jesus knew found themselves at the bottom of the social ladder, with no prestige, no power, and no honour. They were social outcasts, and left to feel that their lives were without dignity, meaningless and hopeless. Their principal suffering, then as now, was their embarrassment at being totally dependent upon others.

**COME TO ME,
ALL YOU WHO LABOR
AND ARE HEAVY LADEN,
AND I WILL
GIVE YOU REST.**

MATTHEW 11:28



People of the middle class (the educated and the law-abiding, such as the scribes and Pharisees), generally treated them as low-class scum, and spoke of them as 'sinners'. They didn't even have the consolation of feeling they were in God's good books, because their social superiors kept telling them that they were displeasing to God, and surely 'they ought to know'! So these so-called 'sinners' felt terrible frustration, shame, guilt, anxiety and misery.

Calendar

JULY 2017

8/9 Sunday 14 Year A
Apostleship of the Sea
15/16 Sunday 15 Year A
Catholic Mission Appeal
Baptisms: 12 noon
17 Term 3 commences
22/23 Sunday 16 Year A
Marriage Sunday
Bible Sunday
Baptisms: 12 noon
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
CWF Appeal (1)
Baptism Preparation: 10.30am
8 St Mary of the Cross

But Jesus was different, strikingly different. As a carpenter, he was from the middle class himself and not one of the poor and oppressed. But he mixed socially with even the poorest of the poor. So much so that he became an outcast by choice, and even got the nick-name 'the friend of sinners'.

Why did he do this? The answer comes across very clearly in the gospels, and may be summed up in just one word - COMPASSION. For example: - The plight and tears of the widow of Nain touches his heart to the core: 'Don't cry,' he says to her, before bringing her son back to life. He is moved with compassion at the plight of a leper begging for help (Mk 4:41), for two blind men sitting at the side of a road and pleading for mercy (Mt 20:29-34), and for a crowd of people with nothing to eat (Mk 8:2). In each case he responds to their sufferings with the power, love, compassion and care of God.

All through the gospels, even when the word is not used, we sense the surge of compassion rising within his heart. 'Don't cry,' he says, 'Don't worry', 'Don't be afraid' (e.g. Mk5:36; 6:50; Mt 6:25-34). He is not moved by the grandeur and beauty of the great Temple buildings (Mk 13:1-2), but by the generosity of a poor widow who puts her last cent into the Temple treasury (Mk 12:41-44). When everyone else around him is jumping for joy about Jairus' daughter come back to life, Jesus is concerned that she be given something to eat (Mk 5:42-43).

His kindness and compassion were the most human and humane things about him. They are the most human

and humane things about us too. Australian poet Adam Lindsay Gordon once wrote: 'Life is only froth and bubble. Two things stand like stone, kindness in another's trouble, courage in our own!'

So, on whose side are we? On the side of Jesus, the side of compassion, kindness, help, healing, and mercy? Or on the side of the scribes and Pharisees then and now - fierce, fault-finding, heartless, critical, and merciless? Will we take our cue from their cruel, harsh, and insensitive judgments and actions? Or will we take our inspiration from what we see in Jesus, and from his invitation to the poor and the broken: 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest'?

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PLANNED GIVING—WEEKLY ENVELOPES 2017/2018

Please be sure to pick up your NEW SET OF ENVELOPES FOR 2017-2018 from the table at the main doors of the church if you did not do so last weekend. These are now the **only valid envelopes**—please 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 .

"PILLOWCASES FOR VIETNAM"

"Many thanks to you all for your ongoing generous support of our pilgrimages to Cambodia and Vietnam. Thanks to a donation for our Vietnamese Community, we have a number of pillowcases we can sell, with all the money going to the Mai Tam Centre (<http://www.maitamhouseofhope.com/home>). The Mai Tam Centre takes in abandoned children who have been born HIV+. It feeds them, educates them and medicates them, as well as trying to relocate them back to their mothers(with appropriate support). In addition , they also have some cottage industries to give the mothers some financial independence. They also provide hospice care for those in the terminal stage of illness, mostly adults. They have graciously welcomed us in our 2014 and 2016 pilgrimages. **Pillowcases will be on sale after ALL Masses THIS weekend, 8/9 July 2017."**

Many thanks

Fr Peter Gardiner CP

PATRICK MINAHAN VILLAGE

The residents of Patrick Minahan Village wish to convey their feelings following a fire on 3 April 2017.

We express deep sympathy for our friends in Block 'D' who were directly affected, losing possessions and now living in temporary homes.

We express equally deep gratitude to the Firefighters, Police and Paramedics and to Management of Southern Cross Care for their fast and comprehensive care of our friends on the night and to this day.

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

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
Sr Elenita

Cultural Committee Chair

George Harb
Ecumenical & Interfaith Co-chairs John

McGrath, Pat Bowthorpe
FMM

Family Groups Contact
Adrienne and John

Harverson
Acting Finance C'tee Chair

Mary Leask
Justice & Peace Network Chair Peter Jennings

Liturgical Ministries Fr Tim, Sr Elena

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

Pastoral Council Co-chairs Paige Bullen, Peter Jennings, .

We also thank wholeheartedly residents and neighbours who have contributed very generously to a fund for the victims and to **St Brigid's Combined Family Groups for a hugely successful and enjoyable Trivia Night**, the proceeds of which have been contributed to that fund.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 2017

Sydney : 7-9 December 2017

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

Already 13,00 have enrolled. And we as a parish hopefully will be well represented.

There are lots of ways to be involved and we have been asked to billet –find accommodation for up to 30 young members of our other Passionist parishes throughout Australia. Can you help us out 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.

PASSIONIST COMPANIONS RETREAT

Where? -The Carmelite Retreat Centre, Varroville, Campbelltown.

When? – Friday evening 1 Sept until after lunch on Sunday 3 September 2017.

A time of Reflection and Meditation.

Enquiries: Carole at capearlwood@yahoo.com.au **OR** the Parish Office.

SYDNEY CATHOLICS—WE NEED YOU!

"A Christian who is not a revolutionary today,

We Remember

Recently Deceased: .; Celina Rego; Henna Doueihy; Giuseppe Fava; Americo Martins; ; Maria Martins; Daniel Correia

Anniversaries: ..George Vispoel; Nita Wilde; Joan Thompson; Ng Thi Trinh; Duong Thi Viet; Jacob Yammine;

For our Sick: Richard Gonsalves; Maria Guilfoyle; Clare Fuller;

Parish Collections

Counters: This week (10/7):
Jim, Lalo, Maree

Counters Next Week (17/7):
Jim's Team

1/2 Jule

1st (Passionists): \$ 1,905

2nd (Parish): \$ 4,832

Cash & Envelopes: \$ 3 487

Credit Cards: \$ 1,245

24/25 June

1st (Passionists) : \$ 2,030

2nd (Parish): \$ 4,699

Mass Texts: Sunday 14 Year A

First Reading: Zech 9: 9-10

Response: I will bless your name forever, O God, my king.

Second Reading: Romans 8:9. 11-13

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

Intercessions Response:

Lord, graciously hear us

Mass Texts: Sunday 15 Yr A

First Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11

Response: .Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.

Second Reading: Romans 8: 18-23

Gospel: Matthew 13: 1-23

Intercessions Response:

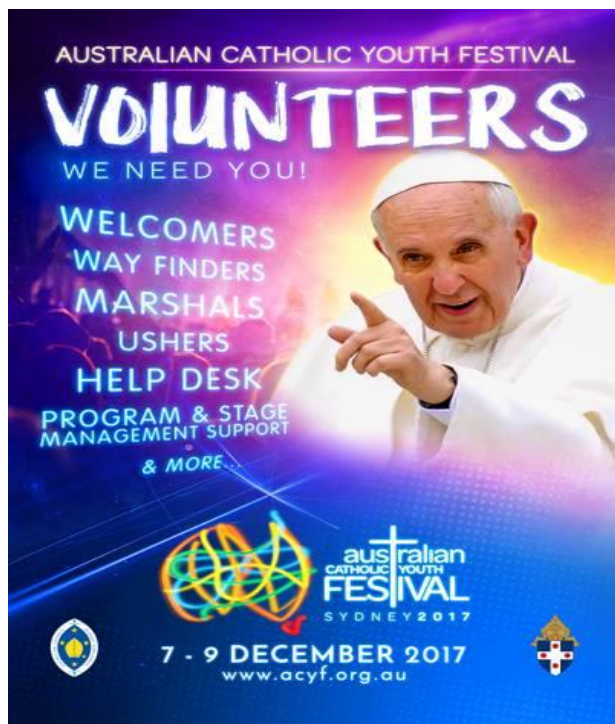
Lord, graciously hear us

is not a Christian": Pope Francis.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING ASSEMBLY

Sydney Catholics needed to stand with other Sydneysiders to claim back Sydney FOR THE PEOPLE who have worked and paid their taxes to build this city and who can no longer afford to live here.

Join with Archbishop Fisher, State Housing Minister Anthony Roberts, Greater Sydney Commission's Sarah Hill and/or Lucy Turnbull AO to discuss Sydney's Affordable Housing Crisis.



Date Wednesday 12 July 2017 at 6.00pm

Place: St Mary's Cathedral Hall, CBD

Register with: sydneyalliance.org.au

"CHURCH AND CULTURE" - AQUINAS ACADEMY

Presenter: Robert Gascoigne. 4 Wednesday mornings, July 12-Aug 2, 10am-12noon. Level 5, 141 Harrington St, Sydney. Cost: \$144/person (incl class notes). **Register:** 9247 4651 OR www.aquinas-academy.com

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.

SUNDAY MASS MINISTRIES

	Lectors/Commentators		Communion Ministers		Altar Servers	
	8/9 July	15/16 July	8/9 July	15/16 July	8/9 July	15/16 July
5 pm Sat	Margaret Dos Santos Liz Buchel Michael Schiano	Robert Whitby Karen Whitby Kelelia Apikotoa	William Metlej Gabriella Bietola Ofa Tupola Kelelia Apikotoa Jo Young	Liz Buchel Margaret Dos Santos Michael Schiano	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi
7.30 Sun	Carolann Ibbotson John Freenab Mary Leask	Elizabeth Delaney SGS Maree Doyle Margret Barrett	Janice Schubach Margret Kelly Theresa James Maree Doyle	John Freeman Maria Mansour Mary Entriken	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
9 am Sun	Pedro Moreira Diane Moreira Kath Walton	Christina Day Joseph Tupou Peter Jennings	Christina Day Peter Jennings Judith Flett John Skinner Therese Skinner	Sue King Francis Seufale Jose Hartany Jessica Hartany		
10.30 am Sun	Kate Johnston Italian Reader Angie Chiapoco	Maria Barlow Italian Reader George Harb	Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine +4	Terry Reyes Lope Reyes Maria Barlow Maria Necesito Geoffrey Lean	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia	Geoffrey Lean Aldrick De Vera Alfred De Vera
6 pm Sun	TEEN GROUP	Jacquei Hicks Michael McGrathP	Nathan Harverson Naomi Rego Ivy Bullen Fergus Bullen	Pei-Pei Coa Arthur Kassis Jackie Kassis Tony Hayek Noeleen Fernandez Jim Boggs	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek