



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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Administrator: Fr Erick Niyiragira CP (erick@stbrigid.org.au)
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Parish Secretary: Ms Terrey Trethowan (9.30am - 4pm)

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION — YEAR B MOTHER'S DAY

OUR SHARED DESTINY

In our Creed today we will be saying of Jesus: '... he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.' What picture comes to mind when we think of Jesus ascending into heaven? Do we picture him moving through the clouds like a spaceship at Cape Canaveral? If we do, we don't realize that those words are not to be taken literally. They are a poetic way of saying that in his risen transformed body Jesus is no longer on earth in a physical and material way. He has gone to God and now lives with God in light, joy and glory.

And yet, in the words of our psalm today, in going to God he became 'great king over all the earth'. He is still among us, then, and we continue to experience his presence, guidance and love in special ways. In our being with one another and sharing our lives! In taking to heart the words and messages in our Bible Readings about him! In coming to his table and being fed, nourished and refreshed by him! In the leadership of our priests! In the acceptance, inspiration and encouragement from our fellow parishioners and others! In our efforts to make the world a better place by our compassionate outreach to needy people!

In short, as we keep on being 'good news' people, Jesus our Risen Lord stays with us. In the words of our Gospel today, he stays with us 'confirming the word by the signs which accompany it' (Mark 16:20).

Today, however, we might also recognise his ascension as his destiny, and express our joy that at the end of his life's journey, God raised him to life and took him to himself for the eternal embrace of love that we call 'heaven'. Like ourselves Jesus dreamt of this day. With his whole being he

longed to see God face-to-face, and to enjoy without distraction the mutual love for which we are all created, and for which 2 deep down we all yearn. Since we admire, respect and love Jesus so much, we are very happy for him that he has reached his destination, and that his time of waiting and suffering are over. Nothing can come between the longings of his heart and the joy of their fulfilment in God.

So he remains forever with both God the Father and with us who are now his body on earth. Though 'seated at the right hand of the Father' as we pray in the Gloria, his heart reaches out to us beyond all limits of space and time. This is just as he promised: 'When I am lifted up from the earth I shall draw everyone to myself' (John 12:32). Through his powerful presence to us he keeps bringing about the reign of God's love in our broken world, even when both as individuals and communities we reject his love by falling into sin. But nothing or no one can stop the love of God for us that keeps burning in the great heart of Jesus.

Thankfully, millions of men and women, boys and girls, keep accepting, welcoming, and living this love. They keep responding to it with the gift of their lives. Some even do so to the point of heroism, by literally laying down their lives for Christ. In fact, to look at the big picture, for all the horrors of hate, anger and violence that swirl around us, there is much more love happening in our world than that.

Our Feast of the Ascension today reminds us overall that the goal of our life is the same as his. We, and everyone else, are called like Jesus to enjoy without distraction or hindrance, the company of God for ever.

Finally, our celebration of his ascension reminds us to let ourselves experience the

absence of Jesus as well as his presence. Like his first followers we are sad at his not being here with us in the flesh, where we might see him, touch him and be loved by him in the ways we meet one another. But missing his physical presence reminds us that we are not meant to find our final home in this world, and must keep walking our own individual journeys of both joy and suffering as he did.

Meanwhile, let him encourage us with his Last Supper words: "I will come again and take you to myself, so that where I am you may also be." (John 14:3). Let him encourage us too with his Last Supper prayer: "Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me....." (John 17:24. Meanwhile too, let these words from the Preface of our Feast also encourage us: "Christ has passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope. He is the head of the church; where he has gone, we hope to follow."

For the blessing, then, of our shared destiny, let us give sincere and heartfelt thanks to God, in the rest of our Eucharist today!

bgleeson@gmail.com

Piety Store

Currently in stock: Communion, Confirmation and Birthday cards etc, plus Baptism candles, as well as a large variety of religious goods.

Why not stop by for a browse

"Why was the Catholic Church interested in the anniversary of the Reformation?"

Wednesday 16 May 2018 at 10.30am at Catholic Institute, Sydney. Speaker: Fr Gerard Kelly. FREE. ALL Welcome.



Tickets \$100. Funds raised help our charity to rescue bread and supply it free of charge to those in need (<http://giftofbread.org/>). We also have a Raffle with over \$40K in prizes - 1st prize, Toyota C-HR Koba 5 door SUV, 2nd prize, an exotic trip for two to India, & 3rd prize a year's membership to C-life Health Club. For tickets, please call 8222 6100.

Passionist Holy Spirit Province Communications

Called to spread the Good News, we do that by our good works and ministries, and by sharing the stories of our people in mission. Passionists, men & women, professed & lay, have stories to share. There are now three communications tools we commend to you:

Face Book: Province—*The Passionists: Holy Spirit Province*

PASPAC—*The Passionists: Asia-Pacific Configuration*

Web Page—www.passionists.com

Empowered by the Holy Spirit

Saturday 19 May, 9.45am-3.45pm at St Joseph's Enfield. Speaker: Fr Adam Crouch, MGL. Cost: 15.00. Please bring your Bible, and a dish for communal lunch. Enquiries: Rose 0412 115 961.

Intensive Journal Workshop

Saturday & Sunday 26-27 May 2018, 9.30-4.30pm at The Grail, 22 McHatton St, N.Sydney. Cost: \$160.00. Materials provided—please BYO lunch and 3-ring binder. Bookings to Kate on 0425 211 065 by 21 May 2018. Sponsored by Eremos.

Achieving Pregnancy Naturally

The Billings Method can assist you. Call Billings Life on 1800 335 860 or check out www.billings.life.

Walk With Christ—3 June 2018

Gather at the corner of Pitt St & Martin Place at 2.30pm, follow the Blessed Sacrament to forecourt of St Mary's Cathedral for Adoration & Benediction from c. 3.30-4.30pm. This will mark the 200th Anniversary of the forced removal in 1818 by the Government of the only Catholic priest in Australia, Fr Jeremiah O'Flynn whose last pastoral act was to leave the Blessed Sacrament in a faithful Catholic's home where it remained for the next two years as the centre of worship and consolation for the priestless Catholics of the Australian colony.

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
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
Pastoral Council Co-chairs Peter Jennings,
Arthur Kassis
Youth Ministry: John Nguyen & Oliver Bautista

Parish Collections

Counters: This week (7/5): Jim/Lalo/Maree
Next Week (14/5): Jim/Lalo/Maree

6/5/18

1st (Passionists): \$ 1,935
2nd (Parish): \$ 3,946
Cash & Envelopes: \$ 2,922
Credit Cards: \$ 1,024

29/4/18.

1st (Passionists) : \$ 2,060
2nd (Parish): \$ 4,185

Confirmation at St Brigid's 2018

**Classes for parent and child
Wednesday evenings at
7.00pm in Shrubland Hall.**

Please Note:
**NO further enrolments will
be accepted after THIS
Wednesday, 16 May 2018**

Rite Of Presentation:
Saturday @ 5pm 26 May 2018
**Sunday @ 9am, 10:30am, 6pm
27 May 2018**

Confirmation Day:
Sunday 17 June 2018:

**Confirmation will be
celebrated in the Church
at 2.00pm**

We Remember

Recently Deceased: Michael Mazza; Peter Thoms.

Anniversaries: Dominico and Francesca Mejia; Mary Coorie; The Otera family; Gaetano Tesoriero; Vincent Vu Viet Chieu; Fawzi Tabar; Maria Pham Thi Sali; Kevin O'Sullivan; Kevin Turner; Catherina Arulanaandam; Peter XuanBinh Nguyen; Catarina Le Thi Quy; Florence Pearson; Felice Mandile.

Carrying Severe Illness: Lesina Lufe; Frank Caruana; Maureen Thorne; Stella Pace; Maria Tropea; Lena Buck; Maria Pergola; Celine Steele; Fr Jim Elmore CP. Lily Sterling

Mass Texts: Ascension (Yr B)

First Reading: Acts 1: 1-11
Response: God goes up with shouts of joy, alleluia!
Second Reading: Ephesians: 1: 17-23
Gospel: Mark: 16: 15-20.
Intercessions Response:
Lord, graciously hear us

Mass Texts: (Yr B)

First Reading: Acts 2: 1-11
Response: Send forth your spirit O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.
Second Reading: Galatians 5: 16-25
Gospel: John 15: 26-27; 16: 12-15
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.

A Mother's Day Prayer

*Lord Jesus,
protect the lives, we pray,
of those who have given us
the gift of life.
May our mothers know
from day to day
the deepening joy that comes
from your presence.*

*We cannot pay our debts
for all the love that we have received;
but you, Lord, will not forget
their due reward.
Bless our mothers both on earth
and in heaven.*

AMEN

*Happy Mother's Day to all
our Mothers,
Grandmothers and
Great grandmothers*

Calendar

MAY

12/13 **Feast of the Ascension** **Mother's Day**

16 Confirmation Prep (2): 7pm in Hall
17 Parish Finance Committee: 7.30pm

19/20 **Feast of Pentecost**

P/School Mass Year 3: 9.00am
Baptisms: 12 noon
22 Parish Pastoral Council: 7.30pm
23 Confirmation Prep (3): 7pm in Hall
24 **Our Lady Help of Christians**

26/27 **Feast of Trinity**

Presentation of Confirmation candidates at ALL masses
Baptisms: 12 noon
Seniors' Group: 2.00pm: Parish Centre
Youth Group: 7-8.30pm: Hall
30 Confirmation Prep (final): 7pm in Hall

JUNE

1 Youth Evangelisation Day: Casimir

2/3 **Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ**

4 Southern Cross Meeting: 2pm in Hall
8 Feast of the Sacred Heart
Confirmation Reflection Day

9/10 **Sunday 10 in Ordinary Time**

2nd Anniversary of Fr Erick CP and
Fr Thomas CP : 10.30am Mass
11 Public Holiday: 9am Mass only

Sunday Mass Ministries: Ascension and Pentecost Year B

Lectors/Commentators

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

	12/13 May	19/20 May	12/13 May	19/20 May	12/13 May	19/20 May
5 pm Sat	Liz Buchel Michael Schiano Margaret Dos Santos	Robert Whitby Karen Whitby Kelelia Apikotoa	Jo Young William Metlej Gabrielle Bietola Ofa Tupola Kelelia Apikotoa	Liz Buchel Margaret Dos Santos Michael Schiano	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi
7.30am Sun	Carolan Ibbotson John Freeman Mary Leask	Elizabeth Delaney SGS Maree Doyle Marg Barrett	Janice Schubach Margaret Kelly Theresa James Maree Doyle	Maria Mansour Susie Houssarini Mary Enriken	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
9 am Sun	Sue King John McGrath	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 Necesito Maria Barlow Geoffrey Lean	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia	Geoffrey Lean Alfred DeVera Aldrick DeVera
6 pm Sun	TEEN GROUP	Michael McGrath Jacquei Hicks	Nathan Harverson Naomi Rego Ivy Bullen Fergus Bullen	Pei-Pei Coa Arthur Kassis Jackie Kassis Noeleen Fernandez Jim Boggs	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek