

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



First Sunday of Lent (Yr C) 9/10 March 2019

HIS TEMPTATIONS AND OURS

The threat of rising interest rates, more taxes and less welfare, huge amounts of foreign debt putting a strain on health and education spending, are much of what we've been hearing about lately in our media. All this talk about money, understandable as it is, leaves us wondering: 'Is that all there is? Is it really money which makes the world go round? Whatever happened to human interest stories, to human relationships? Are our only values economic ones?' Thank God we still have the living memory of Jesus, and the stories of his teaching and example to remind us that there's a lot more to life than money!

Today we remember how Jesus understood and obeyed God's greatest commandment: 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.' 'With all your heart' - i.e. with total determination! 'With all your soul' - i.e. loving and serving God our whole life long! 'With all your strength' - i.e. putting all our personal possessions, qualities and gifts, at God's disposal and for the service of others!

The love of Jesus for God and God's people was total and uncompromising. But this does not mean that it was any easier for him than it is for us. It's clear he had to struggle to choose between God and self. The tension and agony of it all is spelled out for us today in Luke's dramatic story of the temptations Jesus faced during the time the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert. There he spent forty days working out the meaning of his life, trying to discover just what God wanted him to do with his life, and how he might best bring people to God. In the process he came face to face with certain alternatives, which he came to judge as subtle temptations.

First the tempter suggests to Jesus, extremely hungry after forty days of fasting: 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf of bread.' In other words, use your power and influence, not for others but for your own satisfaction, comfort and convenience. But even though Jesus is desperate for

something to eat, he will not dally with this desire, not for one moment. Instead he seeks nourishment of a different kind, relying on God's clear message 'One does not live on bread alone.'

That was one kind of temptation. But the idea that next comes to Jesus is even more subtle and appealing. This is to use his intelligence and charisma to gather round him the rich and powerful from every nation, and eventually, to become a great political leader. It's a temptation to fame and fortune and empire-building. This attraction is the very opposite of what God has said in Scripture about his chosen servant, the saviour of the world's poor and needy people. God clearly means his Messiah to be a humble servant, a suffering servant, someone who sacrifices his young life in love. Jesus remembers this, realizes this, and takes it to heart. And so he blazes the suggestion with yet another clear and definite command of God in Scripture: 'You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

The third temptation of Jesus (according to Luke) is to go to the very top of the temple in Jerusalem and take a flying leap from there. A stunt like this will surely attract a horde of followers, and prove to Jesus personally whether God cares about him or not. The very thought of it is fascinating. Jesus, however, promptly puts the idea completely out of his mind as he remembers and relishes God's word: 'You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

His replies are more remarkable if we remember that Jesus is feeling very weak, fragile and vulnerable. He hasn't eaten anything for forty days. And yet his fidelity and love towards God don't waver for a moment. What's his secret? It's clearly his reliance on God's word in the Scriptures. He just keeps nourishing his mind, heart, attitudes and life, by remembering and taking to heart the word of God.

What the three temptations have in common is the pull of selfishness. We ourselves are often ex-

exposed to temptations to selfishness of one kind or another—in the form of pride, anger, lust, gluttony, envy, sloth, etc. Like Jesus we must turn to God, his Father and ours, for guidance and strength, and rely especially on the power of the holy Eucharist to remain faithful.

For better results when we are tempted, we would do well to do what Jesus did—read the scriptures, reflect on them and pray them. Our Church encourages the practice of reading, thinking about, and praying the scriptures each day of Lent. Whatever ways we choose to help us take God's word to heart, our Lent is meant to be a time of correcting our faults and raising our minds to God, a time of personal and community renewal, a time for coming face to face with God in his all-powerful word.

So, let's make the most of this precious time for personal and group conversion!

bgleesoncp@gmail

Thank You!!!

To everyone who contributed to and attended my Ordination to the Diaconate last Saturday and made it such a special occasion for me —my family and friends from interstate, Bishop Umbers and my fellow Passionists, the choir and musicians, the Vietnamese Community and the Parish Council for the delicious supper afterwards in the Hall and all our parishioners for your love and support for me.

May God continue to bless you all!

Br Tony Simbel CP

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH!!!

ST BRIGID'S PARISH YOUTH GROUPS

Junior Youth—Years 7-9

NEXT Gathering: Sunday 17 March in Shrubland Hall after the 6.00pm Mass

Senior Youth—Years 10-12

NEXT Gathering :THIS Sunday, 10th March in Shrubland Hall after 6.00pm Mass

Adult Youth—18-25 years

NEXT Gathering: Sunday 24th March in Shrubland Hall after 6.00pm Mass

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

[parish @stbrigid.org.au](mailto: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.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2019

"GIVE LENT 100%"

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 encourage one another in faith and hope.

Please be sure to collect your project Compassion boxes if you did not do so last weekend and support CARITAS in its work

—putting your compassion into action.

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

Pope Francis

Piety Store

Large collection of Rosary beads, wall rosaries, finger and bracelet rosaries now available. Also, a variety of Communion, Confirmation, Baptism, Birthday and Holy cards.

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

St Patrick's Day Masses: Bishop Brady

Celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the opening of St Patrick's Church Hill on Sunday 17 March at 12 noon Also, St Patrick's Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on Monday 18 March at 10.30am. All welcome!

Full time Position: Archdiocese of Sydney.

Employment Services Assistant, part of the HR Team located at Polding Centre, Sydney. Details: <https://catholicjobsonline.com.au/job/employment-services-assistant-sydney/>

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: Hamish Flett
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 (11/3): Jim/Lalo/Maree
Counters: Next Week (18/3): Jim/Maree/Lalo

3/3/19

1st (Passionists): \$ 2,215
2nd (Parish): \$ 4,138
Cash & Envelopes: \$ 2,892
Credit Cards: \$ 1,246

24/2/19

1st (Passionists) : \$ 1,780
2nd (Parish): \$ 3,707

ST BRIGID'S

LENTEN PROGRAMME 2019

Each Friday evening at 7.30pm
in the Church:

"TRUST"

15 March: The Transfiguration

22 March: The Burning Bush

29 March: The Prodigal Son

5 April: The Condemnation

12 April: The Passion

Copies of the 2019 Lenten Programme booklet are now available from the Piety Stall. Cost : \$5.00
This booklet will be used to accompany the above programme .

It is also highly recommended as the basis of individual daily reflections at home during the coming season of renewal.

We Remember

Recently Deceased: Luis Huga

Anniversaries: Dorothy Joan Jackson; Kath Wenham; George Calleja; Artemia Sapong; Mar Walsh; Judith Ann Bevan; Maria De Garcia; Simon Doueih; John Nicholas; Patricia O'Brien; Ken Thorne; Melita Grech; Resham Barkat; Raymond Chaina; Giuseppe Consalvi; David James; Maria Nhan Thi Vu; Rose Borham.

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

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

Mass Texts: Lent 2 (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 10.30am Italian mass on 1st Fridays. Also available on request and recommended before attending hospital for major surgery.

CONGRATULATIONS!

to our First Communion candidates who have come to the Lord's table this weekend:

*Jarrow Harvey Austin Harvey
Rachel Haywood Hugo Costa Martins
Olivia Zoe Bacon Sofia Amelie Bacon
Spencer Hamilton Cameron McDonald
Marc Ian Domingo
Finn Mark Craparotta*

*Renee Justin Bernardo Lorna George
Tilen Jazbec Zara Jazbec
Celeste Damayanwong Lucas Curzon
Emile Bouchette Xavier Rodriguez
Montgomery Menken Oliver Marchingo
Olivia Halta Maggie Steuerwald
Sean Antony Condon*

*May the Lord continue to bless them
and their families at this special time
in their faith journey*

Calendar

March 2019

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

5 Lenten Programme in Church: 7.30pm

6-7 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass (incl Third Scrutiny): 10.30am
Jnr Youth in Hall: 7-9pm

10 Casimir Stations of the Cross: 11.15am

RCIA practice: 7.30pm

12 Italian Stations of the Cross: 4.00pm

Vietnamese Stations of the Cross: 5.30pm

Lenten Programme in Church: 7.30pm

13-14 Passion Sunday

13 RCIA Reflection : 9.00am in church

Sunday Mass Ministries: Lent 1 Year C and Lent 2 Year C

	Lectors/Commentators		Communion Ministers		Altar Servers	
	9/10 March	16/17 March	9/10 March	16/17 March	9/10 March	16/17 March
5 pm Sat	Liz Buchel Margaret Dos Santos Michael Schiano	Karen Whitby Robert Whitby Mary Leask	William Metlej Gabrielle Bietola Ofa Tupola Kelelia Apikotoa	Liz Buchel Margaret Dos Santos Leila Walsh Michael Schiano	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi
7.30am Sun	Janice Schubach Mary Leask	Carolan Ibbotson Margaret Barrett	Margaret Kelly Theresa James	Maria Mansour Margaret Barrett	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
9 am Sun	Pedro Moreira Diane Moreira Kath Walton	Joseph Tupou Peter Jennings	Peter Jennings Judith Flett Francis Seufale Anna Aurea	Sue King George Harb Jose Hartanay Jessica Hartany	Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen	Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen
10.30 am Sun	Kate Johnston Italian Reader George Harb	Maria Barlow Italian Reader George Harb	Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine + 2 Italian Ministers	Geoffrey Lean Terry Reyes Lope Reyes Maria Barlow	Geoffrey Lean Aldrick De Vera Alfred De Vera	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchi
6 pm Sun	SNR YOUTH GROUP	Maria Fuller John Skinner	Arthur Kassis Jackie Kassis Tony Hayek Theresa Skinner	YOUNG ADULTS	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek