



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



Administrator: Fr Erick Niyiragira CP (erick@stbrigid.org.au)
Sr Elena Daton CP (elena@stbrigid.org.au)
Sr Elenita Flores CP (elenita@stbrigid.org.au),
Br Tony Simbel CP (tony@stbrigid.org.au)
Sue King (SRE Co-ordinator) catechetics@stbrigid.org.au
John Nguyen (Youth Minister) youthministry@stbrigid.org.au
Parish Secretary: Ms Terrey Trethowan (9.30am - 4pm)

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER — YEAR B

FAITH AND DOUBT

When we come together for Mass every Sunday we remember Jesus. Our praying the Eucharist is an act of faith - an act of personal faith and an act of group faith. Praying together also helps us all to believe, hope and love more strongly, and so become a stronger community. So much so that It might be said of us what was said today about the first ever Christian community in our First Reading: "The whole group of believers was united heart and soul..."

The faith we share is above all our faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that he is risen from the dead and is alive - alive in himself and alive in us. and that he is our Teacher, Lord and Leader. But nobody can do our believing for us. This is powerfully illustrated in our gospel story today.

It is Easter Sunday and the disciples are huddled together in a locked room. After what happened to Jesus just two days before, they dare not venture out for fear of their lives. But Jesus himself does not hide away. Suddenly he comes among them. His greeting is peace. Their response is joy. For the story-teller John, Easter Sunday is Pentecost, and the gift of the Spirit is the breath of the Risen Christ. The disciples breathe in the Spirit and the Spirit becomes part of their lives. They will leave the Upper Room changed persons, courageous, energetic and zealous people, in short, persons animated, fired and propelled outwards by the Holy Spirit.

But one of their number is missing. His name is Thomas. He is one of the group of the apostles, but he is also a distinct, independent self, a real individual. He cannot be both loyal to the group and disloyal to his own inner self. That would make his loyalty deceitful and worthless. For Thomas honesty

and sincerity are, in fact, more important than loyalty and belonging. So when the others say, "We have seen the Lord," he declares strongly and emphatically that before he is willing to believe that Jesus is really risen and alive, he must see and test the evidence for himself. He won't accept their claim just on their say-so. So it's his honesty that makes him doubt and which has led to him being called ever since "Doubting Thomas".

We learn from the gospel story that Thomas comes to believe in the Risen Jesus in the same way as the other disciples, i.e. when he sees the Lord for himself. But in the way John tells the story Thomas stands for all those who have not yet seen the Lord in the flesh but who are come to believe in him just the same. That's where you and I come into the story. We are among those many generations of believers ever afterwards of whom it may be said: "Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."

It's understandable that Thomas was so slow to believe. One reason is because he was such a rugged individual, such a real self-starter. The other is because he was not present when Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit into his fellow-disciples. But Jesus has given the Spirit to you and me, first at Baptism, then at Confirmation, and subsequently at every Eucharist we celebrate. The Spirit which Jesus gives is the Spirit of truth. It's the same Spirit who empowers us to say to Jesus with Thomas, the full truth about him, to say to him: "My Lord and my God!"

Our faith is one of the main gifts the Spirit gives us. But it is not a one-off gift that we lock away in a safe like some precious jewel. As a form of life we must let our faith grow and mature. On the other hand, like other forms of life our faith can wither and die from neglect and lack of exercise. We

Need to pray about our faith, think about our faith, talk about our faith, and express it in works of love. This does not mean we will never have any doubts. After all even Mother Teresa of Calcutta had to struggle with doubts her whole life long.

But if like Thomas we care about what we believe, and persevere in our faith, surely sooner or later our faith will lead us into the presence of the living God!

What a gift, what a wonderful gift is that!

bgleesoncp@gmail.com

Project Compassion

Please be sure to bring your Project Compassion offerings to the church if you have not yet done so, to enable us to finalise our Parish Contribution to CARITAS AUSTRALIA FOR Lent 2018.

Confirmation 2018

Wednesday 9 May 2018: Classes will commence in Week 1 of Term 2 at 7pm in Shrubland Hall.

Sunday 17 June 2018: Confirmation will be celebrated in the Church at 2.00pm.

Can You Help?

Rev Peter Cullinane, retired Bishop of Palmerston North, N.Z has written seeking short term accommodation (1-2 weeks within the next month) for one of his daily mass attenders, a mature woman who wishes to visit her seriously ill sister in Marrickville. The accommodation needs to be within easy distance of Minehan Village. If able to assist, please contact Sr Elena or Terrey at the Parish Office.

Justice and Peace Gathering

Sunday 15 April 2018 from 11am to 3.30pm at Cataract Dam picnic area—a Memorial ceremony to commemorate the **Appin Massacre** which took place on 17 April 1816, when Governor Macquarie and troops forced aboriginal families over a steep cliff at Appin in order to clear them from the area. Hats, sunscreen, bottled water recommended. Limited seating, so fold up chairs recommended.

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

Pop-Up Museum in Marrickville

As part of 2018 National Trust Festival, Addison Rd Community Centre is creating a pop-up museum on **WEDNESDAY 18 April 2018 from 10.00am to 1.00pm.**

The theme is "My Culture, My Story"

The site is rich with history, including the parade ground & army depot of WW1, the freshwater creek that speaks of its indigenous heritage and life as a market garden. If you have anything to display that reflects your story, or just want to learn more about this great suburb come along! The museum will also coincide with Community.A.Fair, an event which brings local services and community together. Participation is FREE, no bookings required, cake included. Enquiries: Mina: arcco.org.au

"Catalyst for Renewal"

"Adventures of a Vatican Astronomer" with Br Guy Consolmagno SJ, President of the Vatican Observatory and author of "Would you Baptise an Extraterrestrial?"

Date: Friday 27 April at 7pm

Place: Villa Maria Parish Hall, Hunters Hill.

Cost: \$50.00 per head (2 course meal)

BYO drinks. Reservations ESSENTIAL.

catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au

RSVP: Thursday 19 April.

Help Wanted

Under current legislation relating to workplace Health and Safety issues, we are required to have Volunteers with First Aid qualifications in attendance at major celebrations and events here at St Brigid's. While we have a couple of such people, we are hoping that among you, our parishioners, we may find a few more. If you hold such qualifications, and would be willing to assist at future celebrations, please contact the Parish Office. Many thanks in advance.

Adoration with Bishop Umbers

In the Church of the Immaculate Conception and St Paul of the Cross, 532 New Canterbury Rd, Dulwich Hill, monthly at 7pm on Friday evenings.

Next Gathering: 11th May 2018. Enquiries: church@dulwichhillparish.org.au

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

Carole Price

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 (9/4): Jim/Lalo/Maree

Counters: Next Week (16/4): Jim/Lalo/Maree

1/4/2/18

1st (Passionists): \$ 8,590

2nd (Parish): \$ 7,164

Cash & Envelopes: \$ 6,015

Credit Cards: \$ 1,149

25/3/18.

1st (Passionists) : \$ 3,065

2nd (Parish): \$ 4,724

Thank You from the O'Toole Family

"Danny and I have been grateful for being able to stay with Tim over the final weeks of his life on this earth.

We cannot thank all the parishioners and the Passionist Community enough for your care of Tim over the past 39 years.

During his illness Tim never complained; he just seemed to accept it as his lot.

We have been overwhelmed by the care and compassion shown to Tim by the Passionist Community and by the parishioners of both St Brigid's, Marrickville and St Paul the Apostle, Endeavour Hills. Attendances at both services and his final service at St Mary's Basilica, Geelong, have given us a better understanding of how he has been loved and appreciated in his Pastoral journey.

Fr Tom, Fr John and Fr Kevin—your consoling words and gestures have been a great solace to us all on the passing of Tim.

Please pass on our family's thanks to the Bishops, Fr Joachim CP and all Tim's brothers who travelled, celebrated and spoke at his Mass of Thanksgiving for his life.

Kindest regards

Chris, Paul, Danny and the O'Toole family"

We Remember

Recently Deceased: Noel O'Neill.; Clare Hoye

Anniversaries: Juan Jovino; Denis Braybrook; Wadad Harb; Arockia Swamy; Melita Schembri; Grace Raby; Francesco Cappadona; Sarah Marsgall; Yvonne Togia Lafo;

Carrying Severe Illness: Lena Buck; Celine Steele; Fr Jim Elmore CP.

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 (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 1st Fridays. Also available on request and recommended before attending hospital for major surgery.

Mass Texts: Easter 2 (Yr B)

First Reading: Acts 4: 32-35

Response: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Second Reading: 1 John 5: 1-6

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

Intercessions Response:

Lord, graciously hear us

Mass Texts: Easter 3 (Yr B)

First Reading: Acts 3: 13-15. 17-19

Response: Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord

Second Reading: 1 John 2: 1-5

Gospel: Luke 24: 35-48

Intercessions Response:

Lord, graciously hear us

St Brigid's Youth Group

CFC—YOUTH FOR CHRIST CAMP: **April 20-22**

for Youth aged 12-21 years. Cost: \$80.00

An amazing youth camp in the coming school holidays where youth can experience fun, faith and friendship on a whole new level. If you celebrated Palm Sunday here at St Brigid's, you will know that this was the youth camp that re-ignited my faith and is one of the reasons why I am a Youth Minister.

If you have any questions or would like to know more, please do not hesitate to contact me:

youthministry@stbrigid.org.au

God bless,

John Nguyen
St Brigid's Youth Co-ordinator

Youth will be handing out flyers after Masses this weekend.

Calendar

APRIL

7/8 April Easter 2
9 Southern Cross Meeting : 2pm in Hall

12 Ministers' Fellowship : 12.30pm

13 Term 1 concludes

14/15 April Easter 3
Baptisms

21/22 April Easter 4
Baptisms

24 Parish Pastoral Council: 7.30pm
25 ANZAC DAY: 9am mass only

28/29 April Easter 5

MAY

1 Term 2 commences

5/6 May Easter 6
CWF APPEAL: ALL masses
Baptism Preparation: 10.00am

9 Confirmation Prep(1): 7pm in Hall
10 P/School Mother's Day Mass: 10am

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

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

Sunday Mass Ministries: Easter 2 and Easter 3 Year B

Lectors/Commentators

Communion Ministers

Altar Servers

| | 7/8 April | 14/15 April | 7/8 April | 14/15 April | 7/8 April | 14/15 April |
|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 5 pm Sat | Mary Leask Michael Price | Liz Buchel Michael Schiano Margaret Dos Santos | Elizabeth Delaney Carole Price Michael Price Carmel Cloran Paul Cloran | Jo Young 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 Margaret Kelly Susie Houssarini | Carolan Ibbotson John Freeman Mary Leask | Mary Entriken Maria Mansour John Freeman | Janice Schubach Margaret Kelly Theresa James Maree Doyle | Michael Dillon | Michael Dillon |
| 9 am Sun | John Skinner Bec Wong | John McGrath Sue King | Frank Cowell Jennie Oesman Justin Hartany Joanne McGrath John McGrath | Christina Day Peter Jennings Judith Flett John Skinner Therese Skinner | | |
| 10.30 am Sun | Bernadette Yammine Italian Reader Catherine Vagnozzi | Kate Johnston Italian Reader Angie Chiapoco | Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco George Harb | Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine +4 | Geoffrey Lean | Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia |
| 6 pm Sun | Arthur Kassis Robert Gascoigne | TEEN GROUP | Kristy Cloran David Cloran Anthony Kassis Alex Kassis Lea Paladino | Nathan Harverson Naomi Rego Ivy Bullen Fergus Bullen | Tony Hayek | Tony Hayek |