

# 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***



## The Baptism of the Lord —Year A 11/12 January 2020

### JESUS' BAPTISM AND OURS (A)

A few years ago news came from England that Prince Edward, the youngest son of Queen Elizabeth, was leaving the Royal Marines. He took only four months to discover that military service was not his thing.

At the time the news was received with shock and horror. 'It's bad form,' some said, 'a lack of loyalty and a dereliction of duty'. There was speculation that his mother was upset and that his father was furious.

This is actually a fairly common family situation. Parents have their own ideas about a suitable career or occupation for their child. The children have different ideas, or no ideas, about what they want to do with their future. Or perhaps along the way they chop and change from one thing to another, until at long last the day comes when they start to settle down.

Jesus of Nazareth had lived with his mother Mary in the little town of Nazareth for about 30 years. It seems that his foster-father Joseph had died when Jesus was a teenager, and that the son took over the family building business. No doubt this pleased his mother.

So we can only wonder what she was feeling that day he told her he was leaving home, and leaving Nazareth, as well as the building trade they had relied upon for years and years, and going off on his own somewhere far away. Worse than that, that he was going to no new job, or at least to nothing for which he had been trained. We may presume that this news rocked Mary, left her feeling very sad and very worried.

But there was no holding him back. For he had a hunch that God had something quite special for him to do. He didn't know exactly what it was. But it would be something to do with that amazing fellow John, who had been baptizing repentant sinners left, right, and centre, in the River Jordan.

And so our gospel today tells us: 'Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John.' (He was baptized,

not because he needed a baptism of repentance himself but in order to identify with, and reach out to those who did).

Then it happened. There and then, after he was baptized, the awareness hit him like a bolt from the blue. He had always known and felt that he was deeply loved by God. In his prayers, he had always called God both 'My Father' and 'Our Father'. But on this occasion God speaks to him so loudly and so clearly that there can be no mistake about his identity before God, and about what God expected of him: 'You are my beloved Son and Servant', God assures him. In other words, there and then God is asking him to be nothing less than the Messiah, the promised Saviour, the one who would make God's kingdom, God's rule and reign over everything and everybody, begin to happen everywhere.

In effect, the message Jesus was hearing from God at his baptism was this: 'Go to my people. Tell them that I love them. Show them that I love them. Gather them together and bring them back to me.' There and then Jesus understood the whole future direction of his life.

Now that he knew what was expected of him there would be no holding back and no delay. As we hear in our Second Reading today, in that famous verse from the Acts of the Apostles: '... because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil'.

We too, all of us, are dearly and deeply loved by God. He is our Father too. We are His sons and daughters. We have been made so by our baptism. We are also brothers and sisters of Jesus. By our baptism we have been joined to his person, and share in his life and mission. So much so, that each of us may be called 'another Christ'.

As we celebrate his baptism and ours in this Eucharist, then, can we re-open our hearts to his call? Can we hear him saying to us what he said to Jesus: 'Go to my people. Tell them that I love them. Show them that I love them. Gather them together and bring them back to me'?

[bgleesoncp@gmail.com](mailto:bgleesoncp@gmail.com)

## FEAST OF SANTO NINO

Mass will be celebrated by Fr Jessie Belorio at 12 noon on Sunday 19 January 2020. This will be followed by a luncheon in Shrubland Hall—please bring a plate of finger food to share.

### Piety Store

Copies of “Word of God 2020”, a whole year of daily readings and reflections for this year, are available NOW at the Piety Store. Cost: \$15.00

### “Catechists’ News—Scripture Teachers Required

Scripture teachers are required for Thursday afternoons in 2020. Also relief teachers and Catechist helpers on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings & Thursday afternoons. If you are able to help, please contact Sue on 0448 808 204.

### St Brigid’s Primary School—Refurbishment

During the coming school holidays, St Brigid’s Primary School will be undergoing significant refurbishment. As a result, of the ongoing work, there will be **no access to the site and the playground from 20 December until the work is completed.**

### Organ Fund

Donations to the Organ Fund are welcome at any time through the Parish Office OR electronic transfer:

**Acc Name:** Marrickville Parish  
**Bank:** Commonwealth  
**BSB:** 062784  
**Acc No** 6445001  
**Description:** ORGAN DONATION



### Donation Point Tap: FYI

After consultation with the Finance Committee, we have decided to move ahead and implement EFT-POS facilities in our Parish. The donation amount will be set at **\$10.00**. Hopefully this will happen by the end of January 2020.

### Message from the Safeguarding Office

*Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you—or anyone you know—have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on Safeguarding enquiries @ [sydneycatholic.org](mailto:sydneycatholic.org) OR 9390 5810. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police*

## **ST VINCENT DE PAUL BUSHFIRE APPEAL AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND 25/26 JANUARY 2020 ALL MASSES**

“Friends,

The sad tragedy of bushfires has impacted on our Catholic community across the Archdiocese of Sydney in a very real way. A brave RFS Volunteer, Andrew O’Dwyer, was farewelled at a Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Victoria Parish, Horsley Park, this week. The parish is providing ongoing support to his widow Melissa and his 19 month old daughter Charlotte, and our prayers are with them. Amid the devastation of the fires, it has been encouraging to witness the support of so many Australians, including so many women and men of faith. While much of the response must be at local and diocese level, such a great crisis also requires a national response. Together with my brother bishops across the country, I encourage you to donate to a special parish collection a Masses over the Australia Day weekend through the St Vincent de Paul Society. Through this appeal, you can make a REAL difference in the lives of those affected. Together we can offer real comfort and long term support to families left struggling after the bushfires”.

**Anthony Fisher OP**

### Diary Dates .....

#### St Bakhita’s Day Mass & Lunch

8 February 2020 12 noon at St Mary’s Cathedral celebrated by Archbishop Fisher OP.

Further Information: Anna Dimo on 0409 458 695

#### Walk the Camino

Two Catholic Mission Pilgrimages in 2020. Small group led by experienced guide. Contact Sr Veronica Rosier OP on 0451 387 906.

#### Saints of Italy

14 Day Pilgrimage to Italy 7-20 June 2020 with Fr Christian Obiekwe. Enquiries: 1300 721 561

#### Oberammergau Passion Play 2020

Contact: Paul Skippen—[info@gpbs.com.au](mailto:info@gpbs.com.au) OR 0412 850 883

## 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** Fr Thomas  
**CCD in State Schools** Sue King  
**Children's Sacraments** Sr Elenita  
**Sunday Children's Liturgy** Sr Elenita  
**Ecumenical & Interfaith** Jim Yeo  
**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:** Jenny Solo

### Parish Collection

**Counters: This week (13/1): Jim's Team**  
**Counters: Next Week (20/1): Jim's Team**

### 5/1/20

**1st(Passionists): \$ 1,765**  
**2nd (Parish): \$ 3,187**  
Cash & Envelopes: \$2,066  
Credit Cards: \$ 1,121

### 29/12/19

**1st (Passionists) : \$ 1,912**  
**2nd (Parish): \$ 3,431**

## Calendar

### January 2020

**11/12 BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**18/19 2ND SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**19 Mass of Santo Nino: 12 noon**  
**(bring a plate to share)**

**25/26 3RD SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**26 AUSTRALIA DAY**  
**Baptisms: 12 noon**

**27 Public Holiday Mass only: 9.00am**

**28 Term 1 Commences**  
**Parish Pastoral Council: 7.30pm**

**1/2 PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

**1 Feast Day of St Brigid**  
**2 Baptism Preparation: 10am in Annexe**

**7 Casimir College Opening Mass**

**8/9 5TH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**9 FEAST of ST BRIGID CELEBRATION :**  
**10.30am Mass followed by Parish Picnic**

### We Remember

**Recently Deceased:** Victor Zahra.

**Anniversaries:** Sr Carmel Fittler OSU; Fr Alex Schembri OFM Cap; Lionel Dowling; Beatriz Bel; Amal Faraj; Leslie Devine; Peter Kelly; Fouad Kareh; {aul Schembri; Therese Sippel; Paul Lowe; Mary Ellen Bell; Grace Wan.

**Carrying Severe Illness:** Zenia Lakoma; Anthony May; Arch Moss; Margaret Barrett; Pearl Howard; Geoffrey Leask.

### Mass Texts: Baptism of the Lord (A)

**First Reading:** Isaiah 42: 1-4. 6-7  
**Response:** The Lord will bless his people with peace.  
**Second Reading:** Acts 10: 34-38  
**Gospel:** Matthew 3: 13-17  
**Intercessions Response:** Lord, graciously hear us.

### Mass Texts: Sunday 2 (Yr A)

**First Reading:** Isaiah 49: 5-6  
**Response:** Here I am Lord; I come to do your will.  
**Second Reading:** 1 Corin 1:1-3  
**Gospel:** John 1: 29-34  
**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 9-9.45 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 and 6pm. (Youth Mass on 4th Sunday)

### 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

**THANK YOU ALL!!!!**

Now that we are back to our weekly Newsletters, a belated “THANK YOU” to every single person who contributed in any way to Christmas 2019 at St Brigid’s. You all know who you are, and we all know that Christmas at St Brigid’s is only as it is because of the amazing amount of work, talent, dedication and generosity of our parishioners. We hope you are enjoying some rest and relaxation this month with your families and friends and look forward to welcoming you all back during the coming weeks.

*We wish the Lord’s blessings on you and your families throughout 2020.*

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
to **Terry and Lesley Turner**  
who this month celebrate the  
Golden Anniversary of their wedding  
at St Brigid’s on 24 January 1970 by  
**Fr Gerald Quinn CP**



*Terry and Lesley Turner on 24 January 1970 with Fr Gerald Quinn CP  
and on 6 January 2020 with Fr Gerald Quinn CP and Fr Thomas CP*

**Sunday Mass Ministries: Baptism of the Lord & Sunday 2 Year A**

**Readers**

**Ministers**

**Servers**

	11/12 January	18/19 January	11/12 January	18/19 January	11/12 January	18/19 January
<b>5 pm Sat</b>	Liz Buchel Michael Schiano Margaret Dos Santos	Mar Leask Robert Whitby Karen Whitby	William Metlej Gabrielle Bietola Ofa Tupola	Jenny Keys Liz Buchel Leila Walsh	Gary Tupola	Gary Tupola
<b>7.30am Sun</b>	Pat O’Reilly Carolan Ibbotson	Janice Schubach Marg Barrett	Janice Schubach Theresa James	Dennis Maher Pat O’Reilly	Dennis Maher	Dennis Maher
<b>9 am Sun</b>	Sue King Peter Jennings	Anna Aurea John McGrath	Peter Jennings Bernadette Sara	Sue King Jose Hartany Jessica Hartany	Luke Nguyen	Luke Nguyen
<b>10.30 am Sun</b>	Kate Johnston Tanya Hronopoulos	Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine	Maria Barlow Bernadette Yammine	Terry Reyes Geoffrey Lean Kate Johnston	Geoffrey Lean Aldrick De Vera Alfred De Vera	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia
<b>6 pm Sun</b>	Adrienne Harver- son Paige Bullen Snr Youth	Cath Walton John Skinner Jnr Youth	Rego family Snr Youth	Arthur Kassiss Jackie Kassiss Jnr Youth	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek