

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](https://www.facebook.com/StBrigidMarrickville)

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),

Fr Thomas Nguyen CP (Thomas.thanh@stbrigid.org.au)

Br Tony Simbel CP (tony@stbrigid.org.au)

Deacon Christopher Roehrig (Christopher@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



Third Sunday of Lent (Yr C) 23/24 March 2019

OUR SPIRITUALITY

If we browse through the magazines in our doctor's or dentist's waiting-rooms, we will probably come across an article on spirituality. Lately too, the lists of best-sellers often include works related to the human spirit or soul. People are no longer satisfied with material things only. So, in their search for satisfaction and self-fulfilment today, people have been looking for meaning and value beyond the material and the physical.

So far, so good! But not all agree on what is meaningful and valuable in life. For some, being 'spiritual' is focussed on a sense of harmony with all living things, and openness to the great power upholding our intricate universe. For others it includes meditation and relaxation exercises for the sake of inner peace and calmness and for the sake of greater physical and mental energy. For some it's mixed up with trances or alleged messages from outer space or from dead friends and relatives. In so-called 'New Age Spirituality' it often involves tarot cards and crystals.

In some searches for the spiritual there is a concentration on the 'self' rather than on the 'Other' or 'the others'. There is little or no awareness at all of such people in need as the poor and the suffering. In other searches for the spiritual there is little sense of the reality of evil. Everything in the garden is rosy. Everything is viewed through rose-coloured glasses. Such spiritualities seem rather selfish and inward-looking, or an escape from reality and a flight into fantasy.

But there's another kind of spirituality - Christian spirituality - which you and I have been sincerely trying to live. It's based on the conviction that a meaningful life is all about good relationships. In relation to ourselves we know that 'God doesn't make junk'. So we value ourselves and respect our own dignity, and we work on becoming better persons, knowing that God is patient with us, and hasn't finished with us yet. In relation to other people, we look for the good in them, and deal with them with acceptance, trust, affection and care. In relation to God we treat God as our origin, the ultimate source of our existence. We treat God too as the one who sustains us through all the ups and downs of life. And we treat God as our final destiny, the one who is waiting to take us into his embrace at the end of this life.

So for us life is both personal and interpersonal. God is much more than the great Architect, who designed this amazing universe, and much more than the great Clockmaker, who keeps it ticking over. No! God is Father, Mother, Friend, and Love Itself with a capital 'L'. We hear God speaking to us, and we respond to God. With thoughts, words and actions of praise and thanksgiving! With thoughts, words and actions of love and self-offering! We converse with God as familiarly as friends talk with one another, as intimately as a wife speaks with her husband, or as children chat with their parents.

So, in today's First Reading we hear God say (directly to Moses, and indirectly to us): 'I am the God of your ancestors, the God of your fathers and mothers. I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. . . I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.' In response to this powerful assurance from God that God cares when people suffer, that God is a liberator who acts to deliver people from oppression of every kind, we have answered again and again: 'The Lord is kind and merciful; the Lord is kind and merciful'.

Our conversation with God continues in this Mass we are celebrating together. In a few moments we will be declaring in the Creed all that God has done for us and for our people down the ages. In our Prayer of the Faithful we will speak words of trust and petition. In our Eucharistic Prayer, we will start with words of joyful praise and thanksgiving, and go on to words of petition for a variety of people both living and dead.

In short, our spirituality as Christians is immensely and intensely personal and interpersonal. We sense that our God is closer to us than we are to ourselves. We cannot stop ourselves from reaching out to the love and goodness which is God. In fact we cannot even understand ourselves or describe ourselves, except in relation to God. So much so that we are convinced that God enters into the very definition of who we are as human beings. We find meaning and value in a personal and community relationship with a personal God, a God who is

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is the God whom we meet in our readings from scripture! This is our kind of spirituality!

bgleesoncp@gmail.com

ATTENTION ALL YOUTH!!!

ST BRIGID'S PARISH YOUTH GROUPS

Junior Youth—Years 7-9

NEXT Gathering: Sunday 7 April in Shrubland Hall after the 6.00pm Mass

Senior Youth—Years 10-12

NEXT Gathering : Sunday, 14th April in Shrubland Hall after 6.00pm Mass

Young Adults—

NEXT Gathering: THIS 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

PROJECT COMPASSION 2019 **“GIVE LENT 100%”**

As we celebrate the Eucharist today, we are reminded of St Augustine's words that the “Christ on the altar” was identical with the “Christ of the marketplace” and that one cannot encounter the body of Christ at the Eucharist without also caring for the body of Christ living without food, water shelter and clothing. Project Compassion provides us with the practical opportunity to recognise the body of Christ in those experiencing poverty, and to stand in solidarity with the world's most vulnerable communities.

“We pray for our sisters and brothers whose homes and livelihoods are in jeopardy from the unsustainable use of the natural resources of the earth. May we work as one human family living in kinship with our common home. AMEN”

Please be sure add to your Project Compassion boxes in the coming week 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.

“Australian Catholics”- Autumn 2019

FREE copies available at church doors now—why not take one to read and then pass on to a friend?

“Call to Action”

St Brigid's is a diverse community of people who have originated from many different countries. As Christians we have shared values and a belief in a fair and just society and opportunity for all to grow and develop. Over the past several years St Brigid's has built a partnership with Newtown Asylum Seekers Centre to provide community to people seeking refuge.

At ALL Masses THIS weekend and NEXT, 24th and 31st of March 2019, we will be making a food collection for the Centre. Could you help by donating one of the following:

tinned food; spices; rice ; cooking oil; soaps; or tooth brushes?

Collection boxes will be at the doors of the church.

*Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity.
Together we act in the spirit of the Good Samaritan
to be a good neighbour to those in need.*



We are looking for NEW SINGERS
Sunday 10.30am Mass

If you enjoy singing at Mass, why don't you come along and join us! For further information, please pop upstairs before or after Mass and see Mary or Terry.

ST BRIGID'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
NOW ENROLLING for 2020
Contact 9558 6926 OR
info@stbmarrickville.catholic.edu.au
for an enrolment package!

Healing Mass

Friday 5 April 2019 at St Joseph's Enfield commencing with Rosary from 7.00pm. Celebrant: Bishop Richard Umbers DD. Enquiries: 0412 115 961.

L: 8204 4189 OR

Sydney.chaplaincy@nd.edu.au

Australian Catholic Youth Festival 2019: **8-10 December in Perth.**

The Passionists will be organising an extra day either side, on 7 and 11 December. If you are aged 18-30 years and interested in finding out more about this, please e-mail the parish: parish@stbrigid.org.au OR elena@stbrigid.org.au by 1 April 2019

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/ 10.30amMasses
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 (25/3): Lea's team
Counters: Next Week (1/4): Jim's Team

17/3/19

1st (Passionists): \$ 1,995

2nd (Parish): \$ 4,330

Cash & Envelopes: \$ 3,0841

Credit Cards: \$ 1,246

10/3/19

1st (Passionists) : \$ 2,105

2nd (Parish): \$ 4,160

ST BRIGID'S

LENTEN PROGRAMME 2019

NEXT FRIDAY 29 March:

"Hours for the Lord":
in the church from
6.30pm-9.00pm

Programme

6:30pm Intro Exposition

6:45pm Vesper

7:00pm Silence

7:30pm Taize Song

Sunday Gospel

*(Parable of the Prodigal Son/
Merciful Father)*

Video clip

Questions for personal reflection
(on the screen)

8:00pm – 9:15pm Examination of

Conscience

Reconciliation

Taize Song

9:15pm Compline Benediction

Reposition

We Remember

Recently Deceased: Rosa Primerano; Victims of Terrorist Attack in Christchurch.

Anniversaries: Josephine Farah; Maria Le Thi Tanh; Celerina Claro; Anthony Quong Tien Nguyen; Nabiha Kayrouz; Thelma Hogan; Brata Widjaja; Moura Pirangi; Miguel Santiago; Michael Carney.

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

Mass Texts: Lent 3 (Yr C)

First Reading: Exodus 3: 1-8. 13-15

Response: The Lord is compassion and love.

Second Reading: 1 Corin 10: 1-6. 10-12

Gospel: Luke 13: 1-9

Intercessions Response: Lord, graciously hear us

Mass Texts: Lent 4 (Yr C)

First Reading: Joshua 5: 9-12

Response: Taste and see the Lord is good.

Second Reading: 2 Corin 5:17-21

Gospel: Luke 15: 1-3; 11-32

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.

St Brigid's Samoan Community Farewell: 17 March 2019



A beautiful and moving Mass last Sunday to celebrate the Feast of St Joseph and to give thanks for our Samoan parishioners, many of whom now live a long distance from Marrickville. They have formally closed their community, established in 1997, which has been an amazing part of our parish life—musically, horticulturally, financially and more—since then. The Samoan choir started in 1991; it is now a parish choir, and the Samoan singers have promised they will continue to participate whenever they visit.

Let's hope that is often!



Calendar

March 2019

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 "Hours for the Lord" in church from 6.30-9.30pm

30-31 Fourth Sunday of Lent

Mass (incl Second Scrutiny): 10.30am

April 2019

2 Parish Pastoral Council

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
14 Snr Youth in Hall after 6pm Mass

15 HOLY WEEK BEGINS

17 Vietnamese Stations of the Cross from: 6pm (in church if wet)

18 HOLY THURSDAY **NO morning mass**

Vietnamese Mass of the Lord's Supper: 5pm
Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7pm followed by Adoration until 12.30am

Sunday Mass Ministries: Lent 3 Year C and Lent 4 Year C

	Lectors/Commentators		Communion Ministers		Altar Servers	
	23/24 March	30/31 March	23/24 March	30/31 March	23/24 March	30/31 March
5 pm Sat	Gabrielle Bietola Paul Cloran Kelelia Apikotoa	Please Volunteer	Carole Price Michael Price Carmel Cloran Paul Cloran	Please Volunteer	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi	Leon Tupola Gary Tupola Walsh Mafi
7.30am Sun	Pat O'Reilly Carolan Ibbotson	Please Volunteer	Maria Mansour Janice Schubach	Please Volunteer	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon
9 am Sun	ST BRIGID'S SCHOOL	Please Volunteer	Frank Cowell Jennie Oesman Justin Hartany Joanne McGrath John McGrath	Please Volunteer	Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen	Thomas Georges Gia Mihas Amelia Da Costa Luke Nguyen
10.30 am Sun	Maria Barlow George Harb Italian Reader	Please Volunteer	Angie Chiapoco Elvie Chiapoco George Harb	Please Volunteer	Geoffrey Lean Aldrick De Vera Alfred De Vera	Albert Naticchia Anthony Naticchia
6 pm Sun	YOUTH	Please Volunteer	YOUNG ADULTS	Please Volunteer	Tony Hayek	Tony Hayek