



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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Email: parish@stbrigid.org.au Web: www.stbrigid.org.au
FaceBook: St Brigid's Marrickville

Administrator: Fr Erick Niyiragira CP (pp@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)
Fr Dominic Samamba CP (dominic@stbrigid.org.au)
Deacon Christopher Roehrig (christopher@stbrigid.org.au)
Jenny Solo (youthministry@stbrigid.org.au)
Jim Yeo (safeguardingofficer@stbrigid.org.au)
Ms Elena Di Perna (parishbookkeeper@stbrigid.org.au)
Parish Secretary: Ms Terrey Trethowan (9.30am - 4pm)

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

17th Sunday –Year A 25/26 July 2020

WEEKEND MASS

UPDATE!!!

From NEXT weekend,
1-2 August 2020
and until further notice

ENGLISH MASS TIMES (WEEKEND):

Saturday -5.00pm (Vigil)
Sunday - 8.00 am
Sunday - 10.30 am
Sunday - 6.00 pm

Please also note that,
in accordance with the latest government regulations,
the MAXIMUM number able to attend any Mass
at St Brigid's,
including funerals,
is now 100 persons.

BOOKINGS for ALL Masses remain ESSENTIAL

Web Page: —
—<http://www.stbrigid.org.au>

Register online on
[https://www.eventbrite.com/o/st-brigid-catholic-church-marrickville-30610719538?](https://www.eventbrite.com/o/st-brigid-catholic-church-marrickville-30610719538?fbclid=IwAR1Iwfy9XyecuuvccMrH-V_GRf8BB36-0gCD9z_F2mLKnXx2CurbMRva-_w)
[fbclid=IwAR1Iwfy9XyecuuvccMrH-V_GRf8BB36-0gCD9z_F2mLKnXx2CurbMRva-_w](https://www.eventbrite.com/o/st-brigid-catholic-church-marrickville-30610719538?fbclid=IwAR1Iwfy9XyecuuvccMrH-V_GRf8BB36-0gCD9z_F2mLKnXx2CurbMRva-_w)

Follow our Facebook page: —
-St Brigid's Marrickville

OR

phone the Parish Office on 8577 5670
between 9.30am - 4.00pm, Monday–Friday .

WEEKDAY MASSES at ST. BRIGID'S

MONDAY - 9:00 am
TUESDAY - 6.45 am
WEDNESDAY - 9:00 am
THURSDAY - 6.45am
FRIDAY - 9:00 am

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PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Receipts for 2019-2020 are available
at the main doors Church.

NEW Sets of Envelopes for 2020-2021 are also available
at the main doors of the Church.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

17TH SUNDAY YEAR A

WHAT MATTERS MOST

In her recent striking article, "Voices of the oppressed must be heard to make positive social change," The Good Oil (July 2020), www.goodsams.org.au, Sr Patty Fawkner, Congregational Leader of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan, comments on the power of story, and on why Jesus chose this way of communicating truth: "Stories create an emotional connection and can inspire us to act. Stories tell us who we are and help us make meaning in our lives. Stories, rather than statistics or angry midnight tweets, can change the world. 'Stats and facts' are necessary but they can anesthetise whereas stories can animate and stimulate" (2).

So, to start with a story! An elderly lady in Scotland was so poor her that her neighbours had to support her. They were happy to do this. But what bothered some of them was that her son had gone to America, and had become rich. The mother defended her son, saying: "He writes to me every week and always sends me a little picture." "See," she said, "I always keep them in my Bible." Between the pages of her Bible were hundreds of U.S. bank notes, cash galore. The woman had a money treasure in her Bible, but didn't realise it.

That story, and, in fact, all the stories Jesus told to make his point about belonging to the kingdom of God and doing what God wants, offer us a challenge that we need to take seriously. Let me tell you of one group of people who have responded to that challenge. Over the entrance to a Catholic School in Fiji, there is a large sign which reads: "Enter to learn. Leave to serve." That sign proclaims loudly and clearly the values of that school and how it understands its role and mission. That sign is in harmony with the teaching of Jesus today about what matters most. In his message to us today, Jesus uses a new set of images and comparisons to highlight this.

Jesus teaches us that the most important and the most urgent thing in life is to find out just what God wants of us, and to do it. This is what he means when he urges us to be as single-minded, as focussed, and as dedicated, as someone who digs up a treasure in a field, re-buries it, and hurries off to buy that field, so that he can have that treasure all to himself. Jesus makes the same point about priorities when he urges us to be as single-minded, as focussed, and as dedicated, as a collector of jewellery, who comes across the finest pearl in the world, and sells all personal possessions in order to acquire it.

King Solomon was one of the most successful kings in Jewish history. He was famous as both a brilliant builder and a wise ruler. Like Jesus, he also strove to know and do God's will. Unlike Jesus, however, his life-style was not completely faithful to God. It was not totally consistent with his personal ideals and convictions, either. All too of-

ten, like too many other human beings before and since, he gave in to lust, and was unfaithful in marriage, and that more than once.

Yet he got the theory right, as we learn from how he prays in our First Reading today. He reminds God that he is a young man, unskilled in leadership. So, he prays: "Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?" God heard his prayer by giving him greater wisdom than any ruler before or since. God heard his prayer, precisely because the king did not ask for personal gain in any form. He did not, e.g., ask for long life, money, riches, power, or victory over enemies. In asking for wisdom only, it was for the service of others that Solomon prayed, and this unselfish prayer pleased the Lord immensely.

Against this background of the Word of God today, let's return to the aptness of that sign at the entrance to a Catholic school in Fiji: "Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve." There's no mention there to the graduating students of leaving to get the job that will get them the most money to spend on themselves. There's no mention there of leaving to join the ever-bigger numbers of human beings, for whom a career path is not about loving and serving others, but about financial rewards, personal satisfaction, comfort and pleasure. The message of that school motto, on the contrary, is to go out from school to make a difference, to serve the well-being of others, to make our world a better place to live in. In other words, to go out and work with God for the coming of God's kingdom on earth - a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of goodness and love, a kingdom of justice, joy and peace. That's exactly what God wants.

The motto of that school, "Enter to by a young man called Stephen Grellet? These are his inspirational words: "I Learn, Leave to Serve", is an invitation from Jesus Christ, not only to those students in Fiji but to you and me as well. How will we hear it? How will we heed it? Will our corner of the world be any better for our being here? Will we make a difference by the quality and the quantity of our unselfishness, our loving, our caring, our helping - in a word, our serving? Will we, in fact, want to live with the same sense of purpose as that expressed many years ago shall pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again."

In response to the message addressed to us by Jesus our Teacher in our Readings today, will we, in fact, be more determined than ever, to live as true images, true mirrors, true reflections, of Jesus Christ to others? Will we, as two of today's colloquial sayings express it, "just go for it", and "just do it"?

bgleesoncp@gmail.com

Vinnies Annual Winter Appeal

If you wish to support Vinnies during this time of pandemic, we ask that you either:

Drop off an envelope to the Parish Office clearly marked "Vinnies Appeal" **OR**

Post your donation to SVDP Marrickville c/- St Brigid's Parish, PO Box 237, Marrickville, 1475 **OR** Donate online at <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/sydney-region-winter-appeal> and in "Message of Support" quote Marrickville conference.

Thank you for your ongoing support to our Conference.

ST BRIGID'S PLANNED GIVING

If you are not already a member and would like to join our Planned Giving Scheme, please contact the Parish Office by:

E-mail: parish @stbrigid.org.au **OR**

Phone: 8577 5670 (9.30am - 4.00pm, Mon to Fri).

This will enable you to contribute EITHER: via **cash** in a numbered **WEEKLY envelope** **OR** via : a **MONTHLY Credit Card deduction**

For a portion of either of the above, you may claim a tax deductible receipt at the end of each financial year.

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CATHOLIC WEEKLY
Hard copies available again in the Church: \$2.00 per copy

The Feast of Mary MacKillop

In accordance with COVID 19 regulations, please note that on the Feast Day of Mary MacKillop, Saturday 8 August 2020, Mary MacKillop Place will be **CLOSED** this year.

Details will be posted on the website:

marymackillopplace@mmp.org.au

Mass in the Memorial Chapel will be livestreamed at 10.00am followed by a time of prayer at the tomb.

Prayer reflections suitable for prayer at home will also be posted on the website on August 6th, 7th and 8th.

The Chapel is open for private prayer only from 9.00am—1.00pm, Monday to Friday. It remains **CLOSED** on Saturday and Sunday until further notice.

We pray that Mary MacKillop will companion us as we live through this pandemic—and remember her words from 1899 :

"God is good and has brought light and help when all was very dark."

COVID—19:

Frequently asked questions

To help with questions on the impact of COVID 19 on sacraments such as weddings, baptisms & funerals, visit the FAQs page on the Archdiocese of Sydney website:

<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions/>

"A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney"

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 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.

Information Directory

St Brigid's Primary School
9558 6926

Casimir Catholic College
9558 2888

Pastoral Ministry Contacts:

Adult Sacraments: Sr. Elena
Bereavement Ministry: Sr. Elenita
Care of Sick & Aged: Fr. Dominic
CCD in State Schools: Sr. Elenita
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 Officer:
Jim Yeo

Pastoral Council Co-chairs :
Peter Jennings,
Arthur Kassis

Youth Ministry: Jenny Solo
Oliver Bautista

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PRAYER INTENTIONS

Recently deceased

- ♦ Anthony Testa
- ♦ Peter English
- ♦ Manuel Pasquale Coelho
- ♦ Concetta Lanzafame
- ♦ Silvestro Fioraliso
- ♦ Antonio Frade

For the Sick

- ♦ Basile Kamoschosto
- ♦ Lena Buck
- ♦ Sheila Kettle
- ♦ Maria Fuller
- ♦ Helen Eid
- ♦ Bob Bain
- ♦ Elizabeth Yashadhana
- ♦ Mary Harb
- ♦ Winifreda Jauco

- ♦ Peter Ling
- ♦ Geoffrey Leask
- ♦ Ken & Maureen Mc Rae
- ♦ And all those infected with Corona-Virus

Death Anniversaries

Amanda Archinal; Gregory Devlin;
Maria T.K. Trang Hoang;
Sr Frances Bartley SGS;
Nguyen Van Hung; Alfred Taylor;
Dominic Nguyen Van Ai;
Daniel Guilfoyle; Eileen Minehan;
Betty Scollard; Timothy O'Brien.

DONATIONS to the parish may be made via the donation tab on our website

<https://stbrigid.org.au/>

The following options are available

- ♦ General Donations
- ♦ 1st Collection (Passionist C'ty)
- ♦ 2nd Collection (Parish)

COVID-19 CONTACT TRACING

During this time of pandemic, in order for St Brigid's to be open for religious worship, the government requires the collection of the names and contact details of EVERY person who attends a celebration here.

The purpose is to contain the spread of coronavirus. If someone in attendance contracts Covid-19, NSW Health will be able to notify you so you can take appropriate measures.

These details MUST be retained for four weeks and will then be destroyed unless a formal request is received beforehand from the Chief Health Officer.