



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 (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

26th Sunday –Year A 26/27 September 2020

GOSPEL REFLECTION

SAYING 'YES' TO GOD: 26TH SUNDAY A

It's one thing to talk the talk, but another to walk the walk. We've been listening to the story Jesus told us about a father who said to his two sons: 'Go and work in the vineyard today.' The first answered: 'No! I won't.' But later he changed his mind and went. That story reminds us that one of the wonderful things about being human is that we have free will. Having free will, we can change our minds and make a decision to say 'yes' to God, and begin new and better lives.

A man turned to drink. He began to live for his next drink. Drink became such an obsession and compulsion, that he also turned away from God and his family. One day while walking along and thinking of the mess he was making of his life, he saw a bent, rusty nail in the gutter. It reminded him of himself and his life. So, he picked it up and took it home. He put the nail on an anvil, and began to straighten it out and clean it up. An hour later, it looked like new again.

Then the thought hit him that he could straighten out and clean up his life as well. That thought triggered his conversion. He turned away from drink and back to God and his family. Today he keeps that nail, now straightened out, clean and bright, in his wallet. It reminds him to stay on the right path.

Both stories tell us that as long as we are alive, we can change, change for the better. Both stories tell us that actions speak louder than words, and louder than just good ideas and good intentions. Indeed, there is much truth in the proverb: 'The way to hell [separation from God and goodness of life] is paved with good intentions.' The second son in Jesus' story knows the right words: 'Certainly, sir,' he says, but he does not

keep his word. The first son, on the other hand, has second thoughts about his refusal. He demonstrates his repentance by there and then going to work in the vineyard.

That story Jesus told us is a powerful illustration of the truth he taught in his famous Sermon on the Mount: 'It is not those who say to me, "Lord, Lord", who will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the person who does the will of my Father in heaven' (Mt 7:21).

Next, Jesus blitzes his opponents, the religious leaders, by turning his parable on them. You've been mouthing all the right words about God's law, he tells them. You've been carrying out all the prescribed rituals. But you have not been doing what God wants. You have not been living in God's way. And when John the Baptizer called on you to repent, you took no notice of him. On the other hand, tax collectors and prostitutes, who used to say 'no' to God, are now saying 'yes', and have meant what they said. They are now living in God's way, as good, law-abiding and honest people, and now belong to God's kingdom. But you, he tells his opponents, are not there yet, and you are not even close.

Jesus has a message for you and me as well. When it's possible, we are church-goers. We say the prescribed words every time we come together to pray. We carry out the right rituals as laid down in the book. Then we go back to the world from which we came. Now there are many good and beautiful and wholesome things about our world. But there are also many corrupt and evil things. It's a world where God has been pushed in the back, and shoved across the boundary line. No one blows the whistle about it, and no one seems to face the tribunal for what they do to God and the interests of God. All too often, in fact, rough play and dirty tricks get applauded and rewarded.

Our world has well and truly lost its innocence. It is also putting you and me in serious danger of losing ours. And should we have already lost our innocence our world blocks us from straightening out our lives and cleaning up our act. But all is not lost. From having said 'no' to God, perhaps many times, we can start saying 'yes', and saying it not just many times, but saying it every time.

Our greatest hope for achieving this remains the person of Jesus, Saviour of the world and our personal Saviour. Every time we come together for the Eucharist, either face-to-face or by live streaming, he comes to us, and unites us to himself. At every Eucharist we remember what he has taught us. There he inspires us by his good example. There he takes each one of us firmly by the hand, and leads us to both goodness of life and the goodness of God.

In him we place our trust, then, not only to survive the presence of evil and corruption in an otherwise good and wholesome world, but even to flourish, to flourish as his followers. In him we find medicine for our weakness. In him we find food for our journeys. In him we find our way, our truth, and our life. May we keep saying over and over again, therefore, 'Thank God for Jesus our Saviour! May we never part from him!'

bgleesoncp@gmail.com

2021 Wedding Bookings

St Brigid's is now accepting **SATURDAY Wedding Bookings** for next year. Please send your enquiry via E-MAIL to: **[parish @ stbrigid. org.au](mailto:parish@stbrigid.org.au)**.

Include couple's names, addresses, phone numbers, choice of date and time, and name of priest who has agreed to officiate at your wedding.

Please keep in mind that, in accordance with COVID 19 Regulations and until further notice a MAXIMUM of 100 people is permitted at any service in St Brigid's Church .

BOOKINGS for ALL Sunday Masses at St Brigid's are ESSENTIAL

Web Page:

<http://www.stbrigid.org.au>

Follow our Facebook page:

- St Brigid's Marrickville

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

WEEKEND MASS TIMES at ST BRIGID'S

Saturday - 5:00pm (Vigil)
(Reconciliation from 4.30pm)
- 7:00pm (Vietnamese)

Sunday - 8.00am
Sunday - 10.30 am
Sunday - 4.00pm
(Vietnamese)

Sunday - 6.00 pm

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from 8.30am to 8.50am on
Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Please note:

In accordance with the latest government regulations, the MAXIMUM number able to attend any Mass at St. Brigid's is now 100 persons.

The Chancery of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney has advised parishes of the following recommendations by NSW Health: **People are strongly exhorted to wear face masks when they are in crowd-**

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

NEW Sets of Envelopes for the current financial year are available at the main doors of the Church.

PARISH COLLECTION: 20/9/2020

1st (Passionists): \$795.00

2nd (Parish): \$2,075.15

Cash/Envs: \$1,017.15

Credit Cards: \$1,058.00

"Tap and Go" Donation Machines"

For your convenience, there are two donation stands, one on either side of the pillars as you walk into the church.

One is marked for St Brigid's Parish and the other is marked for the Passionists.

Please check before you donate that you are donating to the correct entity.

At this stage the donation amount is set at \$15.00 per tap

Baptism Dates—2020

**25 October; 15 and 22 November;
20 December 2020 at 12.30pm.**

**1st Sunday — Preparation for
parents and godparents.**

2nd Sunday — Welcoming Mass

If you wish to make a booking, please e-mail the Parish Office on :

parish@stbrigid.org.au

including your choice of date AND postal address.

Please Note: Baptism is a communal sacrament at St Brigid's with up to FIVE (5) children baptised at each session.

In accordance with COVID-19 Regulations, the MAXIMUM number of guests per family will be 20, including parents, siblings and godparents.



To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the canonisation of Saint Mary MacKillop We invite you to order your free copy of Encountering St Mary MacKillop in Prayer The Sisters of Saint Joseph have created a commemorative prayer booklet to inspire us all to "take fresh courage" as Mary did so often. These prayers share details of her personal journey, highlighting Mary values and spirit, and offering prayers and blessings for our modern world.

To order your exclusive copy please go to: www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/prayer-book or call us on Ph: 02 8912 2777

MARY MACKILLOP
today



**RITE OF CHRISTIAN
INITIATION OF ADULTS
at St. Brigid's**

**Are you seeking a deeper meaning in life
and a personal relationship with Jesus?**

Come and see us
on Wednesday, 28 October
at 7:30 PM at the Parish Office.

Welcome Back—Piety Store

September will be busy at St Brigid's as we are resuming Baptisms and Weddings. We are delighted that Judy has generously agreed to re-open the Piety Store this month—who knows what treasures she has in stock. The piety store will be open every 2nd Sunday of the month. Judy will be available by appointment. If you wish to buy religious items, please contact the Parish office for appointment.

HOLY FATHER'S APPEAL

On the weekend of 03-04 October, there will be a leaving collection in all Masses to support the activity of Pope Francis as Pastor of the Universal Church.

Any support you might provide is greatly appreciated. Envelopes will be available .

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PRAYER INTENTIONS

Recently deceased:

Eliawati Hadiwardojo,
Camilla Barone, Jack Danzey,
Caterina Papaiani, S
alvatore Silvestro,
Maria Lurdes de Gois

For the Sick

Tyson Martin (Casimir),
Paige Anastopoulos (Casimir),
Katy Carolan, Giovanna Cipolla
Helen Eid, Mary Harb,
Elizabeth Yashadhana,
Geoffrey Leask,
Ken & Maureen Mc Rae ,
And all those infected with Corona-
Virus

Death Anniversaries:

Mate Tuimaseve, Luth Garda Cor-
tezano, Kathleen Brown, Ada D'Es-
clen, Margaret Den Bakker, Asteria
Billedo, Patricia Guilfoyle, Mary Guil-
foyle, Angela Quilan, Ferdinando
Zapparigna.

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 and Jonathan 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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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 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.