



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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We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING – YEAR B 21st November 2021

St Brigid's Parish, Marrickville, acknowledges and pays respect to the traditional owners of the land on which it is built, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation

CELEBRATING JESUS CHRIST OUR KING: YEAR B

Daniel 7:13-14; Revelation 1:5-8; John 18:33b-37

When we think of a king, we tend to think of a throne, a crown, a palace, glittering robes and decorations, great wealth, power, and prestige, armed forces protecting him, and people bowing and kneeling before him.

But when we think of Jesus as king, what do we see? He has no throne, crown, robes, palace, or soldiers. We see him walking the dusty roads of Palestine with a little band of disciples. He is surrounded by the poor and the sick, by sinners, outcasts, and rejects - the struggling and the broken. In short, he is surrounded by the kind of people who would never get inside the gates of a palace today, let alone talk to a king or queen.

Jesus, then, is a different kind of king, and yet we don't hesitate to say of him that 'Jesus is Lord,' to call him the 'King of Kings and Lord of Lords,' and to honour him as 'our King' and 'the king of the whole wide world.'

But even before God the Father raised Jesus from the dead and crowned him with glory and honour and a place at his right hand, he was already a king, as he assures Pilate in our gospel today. In the darkness of his own time and world, he was an endless source of light, goodness, and love. People were drawn to him, because they sensed that he had authority and influence, and could make things happen for the better. Over and over again, his kind and generous heart went out to the poorest, most vulnerable, and most wounded people of his day. So much so, that whenever he saw a wrong, there and then he wanted to right it. So consistently courageous and compassionate was he, that he remains our inspiration - your king and mine.

Contrast the leadership of Jesus to that of some tyrants of recent times, such as Saddam Hussein, Adolf Hitler, Joseph Stalin, and Robert Mugabe. One of the features of their iron control was their 'cult of personality.' All over the place, they put up pictures or statues of themselves, that turned them into idols. But in the eyes of their people, they stood for oppression, cruelty, and terror. So, when at long last their evil regimes collapsed, the

first thing people did was to pull down those idols and smash them to pieces.

In the years when Communism was collapsing in Europe, Time magazine published a touching picture, taken in the Ukraine, once a Russian satellite state. It showed a group of people gathered in prayer around a simple altar in a public place. On their altar was a statue of Jesus that said it all. The idols have been toppled, and Jesus the Messiah-King is back in his rightful place.

What a contrast between his rule and the rule of the idols! The idols command; Jesus invites. The idols rule through fear; Jesus rules through love. The idols bring oppression and death; Jesus brings freedom and life. His kingship is about truth and honesty, integrity and generosity, self-sacrifice and service, understanding and mercy, forgiveness and care. So, with grateful hearts we give him our sincere allegiance, loyalty, love and service.

The rule of Christ is made up of all those things we long for - all that is right and true, all that is beautiful, just, and good. Our Preface for the feast today calls it 'a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love, and peace.'

Our King Jesus doesn't need or want soldiers and tanks. But he does need witnesses, people who are ready to stand up for justice, truth, peace, kindness, compassion and care. Both out there and within ourselves, one big struggle still goes on between the reign of darkness and the reign of light, between the reign of lies and the reign of truth, between the rule of nastiness and malice, and the rule of acceptance and respect, love and care.

On which side are we? To whom do we belong? To whom are we attached? Who has our lasting loyalty and love? You and I know where we stand. So today, with the help of his 'amazing grace', let us renew our loyalty and allegiance to Jesus - our King, and the King of the whole world! Let's make that commitment now, make it from our hearts, and make it real!

**May the Passion of Jesus Christ,
and his everlasting love,
be always within our minds and hearts!**

Brian Gleeson CP
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CHARITABLE WORKS APPEAL AU-
GUST/NOVEMBER 2021
Sunday 21 November 2021

CatholicCare, Ephpheta Centre, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Seminary of the Good Shepherd

Throughout the pandemic, the work funded by these appeals has not only continued, but in some instances has been in even greater demand.

Please take one of the special envelopes provided and return it next week—every contribution counts—no matter the size!



Donations over \$2.00 are 100% tax deductible



If you think you or someone you know might be able to help provide a home for a child, why not start by at

tending an online information session with our friends from Family Spirit.

Join a Foster Care information session

The next online information session will be held on Wednesday 24 November 6:30pm - 7:30pm.

You can register for this session [here](#).



PIETY STORE

Looking for a Religious item as a gift?

- ◆ Large variety of statues, rosary beads and Baptism candles.
- ◆ Columban Calendars for 2022 are available \$10 each.
- ◆ St Vincent de Paul Christmas cards
- ◆ Statue's of the baby Jesus
- ◆ God's Word 2022

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<https://casimirmarrickville.syd.catholic.edu.au/>

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 Office on 9390 5810 or sydney-catholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support.

Liturgical Timetable

Mon—Wed—Fri: Benediction at 8.45am followed by **Mass at 9.00am.**
Tues and Thurs: **Mass at 6.45am**
Saturday: **Mass at 8:00am** followed by Holy Rosary
Public Hols: **Mass 9.00am only**
Saturday: Reconciliation 4-30pm Mass:5 pm; & 6.30 pm (Vietnamese)
Sunday: Mass at 8.00am ; 10.30am (bilingual); 4.30pm (Viet) and 6pm.

Ministry of Care & Support to Aged and Infirm

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 9.00am Mass on First Friday of each month .

Did you know?



Parishioner: Matafonau (Frank) Mafi

Top: Frank with his family at St. Marys Cathedral, Sydney, as invited singers to the Cathedral.

Lower left image: Frank holding the artwork for the stained-glass window to the entry Narthex proposed for St. Marys Cathedral, Tonga. **Lower right:** Frank carrying out a site measure up to prepare architectural drawings for the restoration and beautification of the Cathedral.

Humble musician contributes to the restoration of a Cathedral.

“Liturgical and sacred music can be a powerful instrument of evangelization, because it gives people a glimpse of the beauty of heaven.”

Pope Francis 2018.

Frank and his family have been involved in the St. Brigid’s Parish for over 40 years. During this time, Frank has been a major contributor to the music program at the Church, through his role as singer, musician, and Choir Master.

Frank has helped to make famous the musical achievements of the St Brigid’s Parish. It is well known that people of all faiths and backgrounds travel from far and wide to hear Frank’s beautiful sacred music, especially during special Masses such as Feast Days, Easter and Christmas.

Frank has also overseen the significant contributions of the Tongan community to cultural and dance groups in our Parish, as well as visits to local nursing homes at Easter and Christmas time. His deep faith and love of family inspires Frank to continue God’s work both at St Brigid’s and further afield.

In December 2019 heard the call from Mother Mary to become involved in a special project. As a result, he has become the Project Manager for the restoration of the St. Mary’s Cathedral in Tonga. This is a role that Frank is very passionate about as he believes that it is imperative that the people of Tonga have a beautiful place in which to worship. Currently new external timber doors have been shipped to Tonga and stained-glass windows have been designed for the entry Narthex of the Risen Christ (see photo). A special stained-glass window of Mother Mary is being designed to be fitted above the new Marian Chapel, which will be in the sanctuary of the Cathedral.

Frank tells us that this project is a long-term goal and it is estimated to take over 20 years for the restoration and beautification to be completed. It is Frank’s labour of faith and love!

St. Brigid’s Parish thanks Frank for his commitment to the Parish. We are indeed richer for his selfless service to the music ministry at our Parish and for his love of the Church both here and in Tonga.

This is a St. Brigid’s Outreach initiative and if you have an interesting story that you would like to share, please send the story for review and publishing to parish@stbrigid.org.au

Church in Need (CAN) Job Vacancies

Could you share the stories of suffering Christians? Are you looking for flexible part time work? Aid to the Church in Need is recruiting for a number of Diocesan Outreach Assistants who will deliver monthly presentations in parishes across the Archdiocese.

For all details visit, www.aidtochurch.org/work

Parish Office Notices

The Parish Team will be having an
OFFSITE INSERVICE
on Friday, 26 November.

The Parish Office will be closed
In-case of emergency such as sick
call, please call 0446 065 774

Thank you for your understanding.

ST BRIGID'S 2022: BOOKINGS

BAPTISMS

Sundays at 12.30pm

Dates: January 16 (1.30pm) or 23
February 20 or 27
March 20 or 27

Bookings for the above dates are now open:
please e-mail parish@stbrigid.org.au
(incl address, phone, child's full name and
chosen date and you will be sent a form
to complete)

WEDDINGS 2022

New wedding bookings for 2022 will be ac-
cepted after the Christmas– New Year break, from
the second week in January 2021.

At that time, to book please e-mail details of cou-
ple(names, addresses and phone) together with a
copy of the e-mail your priest has given you agree-
ing to perform you ceremony to:

parish@stbrigid.org.au

COVID—19 UPDATE

A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

As from Monday 8 November 2021 and in
line with the NSW Government Roadmap:

For PUBLIC MASSES(weekday and weekend)
Churches and ceremonies of the Archdiocese of
Sydney, including St Brigid's, are open to “mixed “
congregations (fully vaccinated, partly vaccinated
or not-yet vaccinated in accordance with NSW
Health guidelines).

The 2 sq metre rule is in place, and masks must be
worn in the church. Hand sanitising is encour-
aged.

Bookings are required for our weekend masses
via our [website](#) or [facebook page](#).

For WEDDINGS and FUNERALS:

At weddings AND funerals, the permitted number
of attendees is **350 if all those present are FULLY**
VACCINATED. The 2sq metre rule is in place and
masks must be worn.

Weddings: If some of those attending are NOT
vaccinated, the permitted number of guests is
5 only.

Funerals: If some of those attending are NOT
vaccinated, the permitted number of guests is
10 only.

Covid Safe check in is required

Recently deceased: Ilde Reis; Sr. Letizia Annunziata, CP; Stuart Marques

Anniversaries : Peter Nguyen Van Cuen; Alexander John Bruce Peter; Zaghia Attie; Maria Nyuyen Thi Tin; Agustinus Wiryadi Widjaja; Doris Reynolds; James Joseph Smith; Tom Coorey; Dao Thi Lua; Joachim Hoang Can Lap; Maria Castellano; Erstina Kurniawan; Madeline Akkary

Carrying Severe Illness: Mely Siasat; Anne Lowe; Maria Guilfoyle; Renato Di Perna; Celine Steel ; George Turchi.

FIRST (Passionists) AND SECOND (Parish) COLLECTIONS



Thank you to those who have continued to support the Parish financially during the lockdown.

If you would like to continue to support the Parish on a regular basis, weekly (envelope) OR monthly (credit card) and receive an annual 30% tax deduction, please contact the Parish Office : parish@stbrigid.org.au to join our Planned Giving programme