



St Brigid's Marrickville

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, Australia

Est 1886. Under the Pastoral Care of the Passionists since 1887

392 Marrickville Rd, Marrickville 2204

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Parish Team:

Fr Giltus Mathias CP	Fr Wilbard Sambati CP
Dcn Joseph Sy Ho Doan CP	Sr Elenita Flores CP
Sr Rosana Estoque CP	James Yeo - Safeguarding Officer
Mona El-Khoury	Pongia Fenukitau
Elena (Len) Di Perna	Jenny Solo

One Family, Alive in Christ

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

4th February, 2024

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.

Pastoral Ministry Contacts

Adult Sacraments:

Sr. Rosana

Bereavement Ministry:

Sr Elenita & Michael

Schiano

CCD in State Schools:

Sr Elenita

Children's Sacraments:

Sr Elenita

Ecumenical & Interfaith:

Jim Yeo

Family Group:

Adrienne & Jonathan

Harverson

Justice & Peace Network:

Peter Jennings

Liturgy C'tee:

Sr. Rosana



Maintenance C'tee:

Michael Daher & Pongia

Fenukitau

Men's Club:

Arthur Kassis, John Skinner

& Mick Ward

Ministry of Care:

Fr Wilbard

Music Director:

Frank Mafi

Safeguarding Officer:

Jim Yeo

Seniors' Group:

John Freeman & Richard

Gonsalves

Youth & Young Beacons

Jenny Solo &

Kristen Roehrig

Dear sisters, brothers and friends in the Parish Family,

It is with immense joy I write these few words as I embrace the new role as parish priest of this wonderful family, St. Brigid. Thank you all for the warm greetings and assurance of support since the announcement was made a few months ago; I'm touched. I acknowledge all the Passionists and Parishioners, both past and present, who have left a legacy so beautiful to be cherished and built on. I'm so fortunate to have a capable parish team, the Passionist community, generous volunteers and amazing people who have found a spiritual home in St. Brigid's. I can't wait to get to know more of you all.

We welcomed our children and teenagers back to school this week. What a delight to see the kindergarten children walk into the school for the first day! Both schools have strong enrolments, a credit to each school's brilliant reputation locally and beyond. We wish both the schools' staff and children a wonderful and productive year. I had the privilege of celebrating the eucharist with the staff of our two parish schools, St Brigid's and Casimir, to begin the school year; there will be more liturgies to mark the school beginning with the children in the coming days.

This year marks the 1500th anniversary of the death of St. Brigid. Though the actual feast of St. Brigid was on Thursday, we have delayed the celebrations to Saturday, Feb 10th, at the 5.00 pm mass. This allows both schools to be involved with the feast day celebration. The Liturgy Team have spent ample time organising a wonderful parish celebration this year, beginning with Novena on the 1st of February as a preparatory lead-up to the feast involving the schools and different ethnic groups in the community.

COME ALONG to celebrate this family day!

This Sunday, our Catechists are commissioned for their ministry of service, a beautiful and much-needed ministry coordinated by Sr. Elenita. We currently have ten catechists, which includes three new ones.

CONSIDER BECOMING ONE!!!

Currently, our catechists teach at Marrickville Public, Marrickville West, Ferncourt Public and Wilkins Public; without them, the children may not have an opportunity for religious education. We want to thank 3 of our catechists Richard & Rose Gonsalves & Maria Chan who will be taking a break this year for their many years of generous service.

This week, we will begin the 'LITTLE CHURCH' during the 10.30am Mass, the special liturgy for children, with the help of a few enthusiastic volunteers after the summer break - exciting news for the children.

*We will also begin the "information night" on the 13th of February in preparation for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. The sessions will start on the 18th of February.*

We also have about 15 teens and adults in RCIA who are receiving confirmation or sacraments of initiations or being invited into full communion and three others in ongoing formation. Sr. Rosana, along with a few dedicated parishioners, assist candidates in RCIA training.

Our parish is blessed to have such a strong tradition of faith formation. While we can't all be teachers or catechists, we can all contribute to the faith formation of children, adults, and converts by the quality of our own lives, the depth of our own faith & prayerfulness and the example we give and the welcome smiles and greetings we can offer to newcomers and others at mass.

*Mark your calendar: **The Lenten season** is approaching soon, and the parish will host Lenten Reflection nights each Monday at 7pm, beginning on the 12th of February. Ash Wednesday is on the 14th of February; check the bulletin for Mass schedules on Ash Wednesday.*

This week, we will say bye to Fr. Tom, who will be heading for Adelaide on Monday. He will be missed very much, but as he mentioned in his last newsletter, "Family is family", wherever he goes, he carries a piece of us. We farewell him with best wishes and prayers as he begins a new chapter in his life in Adelaide. We look forward to welcoming him back sometime soon.

We also welcomed Fr. Tiernan Doherty, familiar to many in the parish; he was the parish priest of St. Brigid's in the 80's, and in the last few years, he was the community leader in High Gate, London. He will be the new community leader here at the monastery. The parish family welcome him back and wishes him all the best.

We have a beautiful family here at St. Brigid, and everyone, pitching in to make this place truly a family where we feel we belong. I'm indeed grateful to everyone involved in different committees (PPC, PFC, PMC), other ministries, music, catechist, lector, acolyte, eucharist, prayer, flower arrangements, Christmas crib, gift shop, collectors, counters, prayer groups; the list is long. I'm excited! Have a wonderful week ahead!

Fr. Giltus CP



St. Brigid's Young Beacons

Parents and Families



St. Brigid's Feast Day

Calling all St. Brigid's Young Beacons and Families

You are invited to attend the Special Occasion of the Feast of St. Brigid.

WHEN: Saturday 10th February 2024 at 5:00pm
Mass Please meet at the church steps at 4:45 pm.
Wear something green if you have something suitable.

WHERE: In the Church

ACTIVITY DETAILS: We have prepared the paper squares for our St. Brigid's Cloak and it is ready to go! We need our Young Beacons to process into the Church holding the cloak out so that the congregation can see its beauty and significance. We will have a special guest - A Sister who will tell the story of St. Brigid as we process in. We will then place the cloak on a special place on the altar.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING OUR
YOUNG BEACONS FOR THIS
VERY SPECIAL OCCASION

Sacraments for 2024

Parent Information Night
for the



Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held on
Tuesday 13th February at 7pm in the Hall.

Dates for First Holy Communion and
Confirmation will be advertised once confirmed
with the Archdiocese.

St Brigid's Lent Program
Come join the parish team
as we meet every Monday evening
during Lent in the parish at 7pm



Starting Monday 12th February

All Welcome

**LENT 2024 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY,
BRUCE DOWNES**

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter.

Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful & prayerful.

This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent>

Go to BruceDownes.org for more information.

Praying with the Mystics - (Cottage Retreat) 23 - 25 Feb

In the framework of Centering Prayer, this weekend retreat will pray with the mystics who teach us that it is when we return within that God is met.

Retreat Cost: \$150 + accommodation cost. For more information, go to: <https://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/abbey-retreat-programs/>

Jamberoo Abbey 695 Jamberoo Mountain Road Jamberoo
T: 02 4236 0011 E: webadmin@jamberooabbey.org.au

**A Lenten Retreat Day with the
Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia**

Women of all ages are invited to join the Sisters for a Lenten Retreat Day. This day will focus on renewing the foundations of the spiritual life as we strive to live the Paschal Mystery throughout the year. The retreat day will include Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions, talks by the Sisters, personal testimony, a Holy Hour, and discussion groups. Morning tea and lunch are included. A \$20 fee assists with covering retreat expenses.

Saturday, 16 March at St Mary's Cathedral Hall

From 10am to 4pm, doors to open at 9-9:30am.

Morning tea and lunch included.

All day adoration (in the crypt) and confession.

For more information on the evening and to register to attend, visit: <https://bit.ly/3RRAKfa>.



Who are carers? There are more than 2.65 million unpaid carers in Australia. That's 1 in 9 people.

Every caring situation is different and a carer:

- ♦ Can be young or old.
- ♦ Might look after someone living with disability, a medical condition, mental illness, or someone who is frail due to age.
- ♦ Can care for anyone – a parent, spouse, partner, child, sibling, friend or neighbour, or any other loved one.
- ♦ May help their loved one with shopping, housework, cooking, transport, or provide emotional support.

What is Carer Gateway?

Carer Gateway is a free Australia-wide service that provides a range of support and local services for carers. This includes culturally sensitive and in-language services to improve carer wellbeing, skills and knowledge. Trained staff are available on the confidential phone line at 1800 422 737 Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm to provide carers with information about accessing the support they need.

We provide many services to support carers in their caring role, including:

- ♦ in-person and online peer support groups.
- ♦ tailored support packages to help with accessing planned respite, transport services, and more.
- ♦ in-person and phone counselling.
- ♦ in-person and online self-guided coaching.
- ♦ online skills courses to support carer wellbeing.
- ♦ access to emergency respite.

Carers can go to www.carergateway.gov.au for more information.

Embrace Society has been engaged and authorised by the Australian Government's Department of Social Services to communicate with multicultural communities about Carer Gateway.

www.embracesociety.com.au

Recently Deceased: The Cuong Pham, Luis Da Palma

Death Anniversaries: Teresa O'Brien, Tat Dung Dang, guise Xuan Phling Pham, Sidney Ernest James, Bede Kevin Price, Margaret Abbott, John Mahony, Gloria Randazzo, Linda El Tabar, Leonard James Etham Macaig, Teresa Favorito Mazzeo, Patricia Murray, Concitta Schemlui,

Carrying Severe Illness: Elizabeth Pizzuto, John Thomas, James Misi, Phil Drew, Steven Para, Mary Angela Thomas, Lidia Obeid, George Clavigo, Huyen Nguyen, Georgette Khoury, John Love, Penelope Lincoln, Paul Darbyshire, Leonardo Sofi, Paul Massi, Mely Siasat, Maria Caccamo, Michael Natoloczny, Laurice Sassine, Sharon Micallef, Fr Christopher Mithen CP.

Other intentions: Wendy Lamb, Pam Desmond, Joe Farah, Josephine Farah, Rafael Gomes



Mass Texts: Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Job 7:1-4, 6-7
I am filled with sorrow all day long.

Response: Ps 146:1-6
Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted

Second Reading: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23
Punishment will come to me if I do not preach the Gospel.

Gospel Acclamation:
R. Alleluia, alleluia! He bore our sickness and endured our suffering. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mk 1:29-39
He cured many who suffered from diseases of one kind or another.



PARISH CALENDAR 2024

FEBRUARY

4th	Sun		Catechist Sunday
10th	Sat	5.00pm	St Brigid's Feast Day
		6.30pm	Viet.1st day New Years Mass
11th	Sun	12.00pm	Baptisms
		4.00pm	Viet.2nd day New Years Mass
12th	Mon	6.00pm	Viet.3rd day New Years Mass
		7.00pm	Lent group
13th	Tue	7.00pm	Sacramental Information
			Evening
14th	Wed	6.45am	Ash Wednesday
		9.00am	
		6.00pm	Vietnamese Mass
		7.30pm	
18th	Sun		First Sunday of Lent
			Reconciliation Session 1

Liturgical Timetable

Mon - Wed - Fri: Adoration and Benediction at 8.45am followed by **Mass at 9.00am** and Rosary
Tues: **Mass at 6:45am**
Thurs: Mass at 6.45am followed by Rosary
Saturday: **Mass at 8:00am** followed by Holy Rosary
Reconciliation: 4.30pm. Mass: 5.00pm (Livestreamed) and 6.30pm (Vietnamese)
Sunday: **Mass at 8.00am | 10.30am** (bilingual) | 4.00pm (Vietnamese) | **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. Blessing for the Ministers will be given after Mass.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is offered after 9.00am Mass on the first Friday of each month .

	Lectors/Commentators		Communion Ministers		Acolytes / Altar Servers		Collector In-charge
	3/4 Feb	10/11 Feb	3/4 Feb	10/11 Feb	3/4 Feb	10/11 Feb	
Saturday 5:00pm	Com: Michael H Reader: Laura N	Com: Margaret H Reader: Jim Y	Michael P Carole P Leila W Ofa T	Kelelia A Gabriel B Elizabeth B Vinh N	M. Dillon Vinh N. Sophia N.	M. Dillon Vinh N. Sophia N.	Jim Yeo Michael P.
Sunday 8:00am	Com: Joseph F Reader: Esther G	Com: Mary L Reader: Geoffrey L	F. Seufale Margaret K John S	Paul C Michael H Margaret H Vinh N	Dennis M. Vinh N. Agustine E	Dennis M. Vinh N. Agustine E	Peter H. Maria M.
Sunday 10:30am	Com: Peter J 1st: Trang L 2nd: Italian	Com: Bernadette S 1st: John M 2nd: Italian	Angie C Frank C Peter J Tony H	Sue K Jenny O Bernadette S Albert N	Albert N Anthony N	Albert N Anthony N	Tony C. Giuseppe S
Sunday 6:00pm	Com: Kevin B Reader: Lenore D	Com: Charlie E Reader: Lina E	Arthur K Jackie K	Kevin B Tony H	Tony H. Charlene E. Celina E. Alexis H.	Tony H. Charlene E. Celina E. Alexis H.	Arthur K. Jackie K

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 safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or 9390 5810. You may also 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.

