



St Brigid's Marrickville

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, Australia
Est 1886. Under the Pastoral Care of the Passionists since 1887

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Parish Team:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Fr Giltus Mathias CP | Fr Joseph Sy Ho Doan CP |
| Fr James Nguyen Van Cong CP | Sr Elenita Flores CP |
| Sr Rosana Estoque CP | James Yeo - Safeguarding Officer |
| Mona El-Khoury | Pongia Fenukitau |
| Elena (Len) Di Perna | Jenny Ryan-Cook |

One Family, Alive in Christ

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people.

First Sunday of Advent - Year C

1st December, 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:

Sr Rosana

Music Director:

Frank Mafi

Safeguarding Officer:

Jim Yeo

Seniors' Group:

John Freeman & Richard Gonsalves

Youth & Young Beacons

Jenny Ryan-Cook & Lina Elias



Dear sisters, brothers, and friends in the parish family,

People often share that Spring is their favourite season. They speak of it as a welcome reprieve from the dreary grey skies and the biting frost of winter. It is a time when the earth awakens, and tender green shoots push their way toward the sunshine. Others, however, find joy in the splendour of Autumn. They revel in the vibrancy of changing colours and the soothing relief from summer's relentless heat. Both seasons, with their unique charms, offer a sense of renewal and beauty.



But at the risk of sounding overly pious, if I had to choose, give me Advent! There's something deeply meaningful about this sacred season of purple, of preparation, of waiting, and of wanting. It's a time when hope and expectation take centre stage—a season not just of anticipation but of intentionality. The quiet beauty of Advent invites us to slow down and focus on what truly matters.

This resonates powerfully with the reflections found in Susan Rowland's book, Make Room for God: Clearing Out the Clutter. In her candid and thought-provoking writing, Rowland shares her journey of de-cluttering life, not just of things but of distractions, habits, and misplaced priorities. "I felt lost in a cultural wilderness," she writes, "in clutter, collecting, consuming... in working, worrying, and waiting for something better." Consumption, she explains, had become a companion in her life—familiar, easy, but ultimately shallow. Too often, she admits, she settled for these fleeting distractions instead of choosing intimacy with God. Her words are a striking reminder that when our hearts ache, we often reach for something to soothe the pain. The challenge is ensuring we reach for the right salve—the one that truly heals and nourishes us.

Advent, then, becomes a time to do just that: to separate the treasure from the trash, to sift through the noise of our lives and re-centre on what truly matters. In this sacred waiting, we are reminded that Jesus is our Star—our ultimate guide, the one who orients us when we feel lost. He is the one who clears the clutter of our hearts and minds, inviting us into a deeper, more authentic relationship with Him.

As I reflect on this, I can't help but feel that we are living in a time that calls

for prophets. No, we don't have the likes of Jeremiah, Ezekiel, or Micah walking among us, but I find myself deeply grateful for the modern-day voices of truth and love. Leaders like Pope Francis, alongside countless women and men across the globe, speak courageously, calling us to justice, compassion, and transformation. These voices

remind us that Advent is not just a passive waiting but an active conversion—a call to turn our hearts and lives toward God.

What a privilege it is to live in such a time! Yes, the challenges are great, but so too are the opportunities to grow, to serve, and to love. Advent invites us into this holy work, encouraging us to let go of what is shallow and to embrace what is lasting. It is a season of hope, of gratitude, and of transformation. And in that, we are blessed beyond measure.

Advent reflection nights

This past Monday evening, our parish gathered for a beautiful and deeply meaningful first night of Advent reflection. If you couldn't join us this past Monday, I warmly invite you to the **second Advent reflection night** this coming **Monday, 2nd December at 7:00 PM** in the parish hall.

Each week brings a new theme and opportunity to deepen our spiritual preparation for Christmas. Let us continue this journey together, rediscovering the joy and hope of the Advent season.

Come as you are and bring a friend - there's always room for more!

Community Christmas Carols – Saturday, 14th December!

Get ready for an unforgettable evening of **fun, food, family, and fireworks** at our **Community Christmas Carols!** Join us as we come together to celebrate the joy of the season with heart-warming carols, delicious food stalls, and family time. The night will conclude with a spectacular **fireworks display** to light up the Christmas spirit!

- When:** Saturday, 14th December
- Time:** Festivities kick off at 6:30 PM
- Where:** St. Brigid's Catholic Church

Bring your family, your friends, and your festive cheer for a night to remember. Let's make this a celebration of joy, community, and the true spirit of Christmas.

We can't wait to see you there!

Fr Giltus



Vinnies Christmas Appeal



We have our annual Christmas Appeal on the weekend of 7th and 8th December.

Envelopes will be available this week and throughout the appeal weekend. Your generosity is much appreciated

The relentless cost-of-living crisis is forcing families to make unimaginable choices - whether to keep the lights on or put food on the table. Will you provide vulnerable families the urgent relief they desperately need this Christmas?

Practical financial assistance

Your gift can help give families a helping hand with rent, high utility bills, fuel and other expenses so they can stay safe and secure at home.

Food for people going hungry

Your donation can help provide support for families like Tania's facing food insecurity. Food hampers and vouchers help people struggling to put food on the table.

Connecting to brighter futures

Your kind gift can help more people connect to ongoing support so they can get through this ongoing cost-of-living crisis and get back on their feet.

Parish Christmas Raffle Tickets

On sale after Mass



\$5.00 per ticket
or
5 for \$20.00



Great prizes

Week 02

ADVENT REFLECTION

**TRUTH AND PEACE:
A GOSPEL WORD IN A VIOLENT WORLD**

The Messenger

Slow down amidst the busy season, to listen, reflect, and prepare spiritually for the birth of Christ.

Monday
02 December 2024
07.00 PM

JOIN US →

Our Location
St Brigid Parish, Marrickville

CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY (Sydney)

Sunday 15th December (3pm)

Venue: St Peter's Catholic Church, Surry Hills

Address: 235 Devonshire St, Surry Hills

ENTRY: By Donation (suggested \$10+ per ticket)

Seats are a STRICTLY LIMITED so

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1315238>

This year all our Carols tickets will be Entry By Donation with all funds raised supporting Aid to the Church in Need and it's vital charity programs in Lebanon, The Holy Land & Ukraine.

Boarding House Christmas Party
Saturday 14th December 2024 from 11am

Denroma Boarding House
36 England Ave, Marrickville



Come and share the love

We need people, adults and families to sit with and enjoy the company of the residents who may not have family or friends. Either make your own way to Denroma House by 10.45am or come to Shrublands Hall by 10.15am for transport.



A good party needs....

Music, friends and of course food.

Our parish is famous for its tradition of sharing food. At 10am on Saturday 14th please drop off a plate of finger foods to Shrublands Hall by 10.15am

Drop off your gifts in the boxes at the main entrance of the Church.

Gifts needed: Men's caps, t-shirts, toiletries
No women's gifts needed

Enquiries: please call the parish on 8577 5670

The Catholic Weekly - Only \$2.00

- The cathedral goes red for Christian martyrs
- The carpenter priest
- Archbishop's homily: Christ the King
- Mary Cain paints the town purple
- Black Friars returns to Catholic Church
- Sydney FC partners with St Mary's

St Joseph's, Enfield

DECEMBER HEALING MASS

6th December 2024

Speaker: Fr Peter Liem Duong

Rosary: 7pm, Reconciliation: 7-8pm,

Prayer & Praise: 7.30pm

Mass: 8pm followed by Exposition

126 Liverpool Rod Enfield - enter via Baker Street

Contact: Rose: 80683845. M: 0412115961.
email: rosetwymansydney@gmail.com

Annual Lourdes Day Mass

The Order of Malta's annual Lourdes Day Mass at St Mary's Cathedral is celebrated for the intentions of all Catholic families. Those needing physical or spiritual healing and support are particularly encouraged to participate and receive a bottle of water from the Lourdes shrine. All those in attendance will receive a blessing for good health.

Saturday, 7 December 2024 at 11 am
at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney

Room to rent - Wiley Park

Looking for female to share unit.
\$250/week rent - not including amenities.
Parking spot available. Contact the parish office

Recently Deceased: Peter Trinh Doan Nguyen, Umberto Cambria, Isaura Estrela Santa

Death Anniversaries: Dao Thi Lua, Joachim Hoang Van Lap, Maria Castellano, Erstina Kurniawan, Madeline Akkary, Jose Nobrega Dos Santos, Sr Madge Nipperess RSM, James Jennings, Damien Bieu Van Hoang, Maria Hue Thi Nguyen, Maria Portada

Carrying Severe Illness: Elizabeth Pizzuto, James Misi, Steven Para, John Love, Eileen McClement, Mary Angela Thomas, Lidia Obeid, George Clavigo, Huyen Nguyen, Laura Nolan, Georgette Khoury, Penelope Lincoln, Paul Darbyshire, Leonardo Sofi, Maria Caccamo, Paul Murphy, Michael Natoloczny, Laurice Sassine, Sharon Micallef, Nick Rizzo, Tina Schino, Rudi Presern, Fr Christopher Mithen CP, Damia Roumie, Jose Gomes, Catherine Vella, Angela Augerinos, Antonios Gebrael, Louta Mafi, Colin Constantinou, Lilyan McAusland, Sasha Dennis Rances, Marie Thompson, George Baraket, Richard Hudson, Lia Naoumidis,

Other intentions: Josephine & Joseph Farah, Wendy Lamb, Violet Macrozonaris, Rogelio



Mass Texts: First Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Jer 33:14-16
I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.

Response: Ps 24:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14
To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Second Reading: 1 Thess 3:12-4:2
When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
Your redemption is near at hand.



PARISH CALENDAR 2024

DECEMBER

| | | | |
|------|-----|----------|---|
| 1st | Sun | 2.00pm | First Sunday of Advent The Early Music Collective Concert |
| 3rd | Tue | 5.00pm | Year 6 Graduation Mass |
| 4th | Wed | 7.00pm | RCIA meeting |
| 8th | Sun | 7.00pm | Youth Group |
| 9th | Mon | 10.30am | Catechist Mass |
| 10th | Tue | 7.00pm | Volunteer Thank you |
| 14th | Sat | 11.00am | Boarding House Christmas Party |
| | | 7.00pm | Carols on the Lawn |
| 15th | Sun | 2.00pm | Senior's Group |
| 17th | Tue | 7.00pm | PPC meeting |
| 20th | Fri | 4.00pm | Parish Office Closes |
| 22nd | Sun | 12 & 2pm | Baptism |

Liturgical Timetable

MONDAY - FRIDAY: Mass at 6:45am followed by Exposition and Rosary. Adoration and Benediction at 8.45am followed by Mass at 9.00am and 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) | 6.00pm.

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.

DAILY MORNING MASSES

| Date | Lay Min | Reader |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Mon 6:45 | Vinh N | Jim Y |
| 9:00 | Mary T | Liz |
| Tue 6:45 | Albert N | Viet |
| 9:00 | Mary T | Viet |
| Wed 6:45 | Albert N | Paul C |
| 9:00 | Liz | Buddy |
| Thu 6:45 | Paul C | Michael P |
| 9:00 | Thom Thao | Joanna |
| Fri 6:45 | Vinh N | Patricia |
| 9:00 | Tony C | Leila W |
| Sat 8:00 | Jim | Judy |

WEEKLY ROSTER

| | Lectors/Commentators | | Communion Ministers | | Acolytes / Altar Servers | Collector In-charge |
|-----------------|---|---|--|---|--|-----------------------|
| | 30 Nov/1 Dec | 7/8 Dec | 30 Nov/1 Dec | 7/8 Dec | This weekend | |
| Saturday 5:00pm | Margaret H Jim Y Ofa T | Elizabeth B Thu H Michael P | Carole P Michael P Thu H Elizabeth B | Margaret H Ofa T Thu H Leila W | Vinh N. Sophia N. Eidan S | Jim Y. Michael P. |
| Sunday 8:00am | Com: Margaret T 1st: Joseph F 2nd: Joanna V | Com: Stephen O 1st: John S 2nd: Marco G | Geoffrey L Mary L John S | Mary L Stephen O Dennis M | Dennis M. Luca G Antonella G | Peter H. Maria M. |
| Sunday 10:30am | Robert G Trang L Italian | Dana T Mely S Italian | Angie C Benadette Y Giuseppe S Tony C | John M Aiden K Tony H Angie C | Albert N Anthony N | Tony C. Giuseppe S |
| Sunday 6:00pm | Charlie E Charlene E Arthur K | Kevin B Rex H Charlie E | Arthur K Alexis H Lenore D | Arthur K Alexis H Lenore D | 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.

