



## 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 Tom McDonough CP	Fr Dominic Samamba CP
Sr Elenita Flores CP	Fr Giltus Mathias CP
Sr Rosana Estoque CP	James Yeo
Dcn Rev. Christopher Roehrig	Pongia Fenukitau
Elena (Len) Di Perna	Jenny Solo

**One Family, Alive in Christ**

**We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people**

### Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

29th January, 2023

*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*

*The Gospel for today (Matt 5:1-12) introduces the great Sermon (Sermon on the Mount, 5:1-7:29) that is the real beginning of Jesus' public ministry in Matthew's Gospel. Of all the evangelists, Matthew is the most concerned to relate the Christian community to its Jewish heritage.*

*Central to that heritage is Israel's possession of the Law (Torah) of Moses. For Matthew, Jesus does not sweep away the Torah but 'brings it to fulfilment' (5:17). He does so by giving it an authoritative interpretation valid for the messianic age.*

*As the Mosaic Law shapes life of the Israelites, the Christian community should find in the Sermon the Torah that is to shape and characterise its life. For this reason, it is important to note the context in which Jesus gives the Sermon. If we look back to the concluding verses of the previous chapter, we shall see that Jesus addresses his disciples in the presence of 'all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics and paralytics, . . . great crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan' (4:24-25).*

*'Seeing the crowds' (5:1a), Jesus ascends the mountain, sits down, and his disciples come to him – as to a teacher – for instruction. He is not trying to get away from the crowds. Like a bishop addressing ordinands in the presence of the congregation they are being ordained to serve, he is about to tell his disciples who they must be and how they should live, so that they can be something for that burdened mass of humanity that is down there on the plain waiting for his – and ultimately their – ministry. This is the essential context for the Beatitudes with which the Sermon begins (vv 2-12).*

*The Beatitudes are not commandments bluntly instructing the disciples about how they should live. They are rather invitations to adopt certain attitudes and live out certain values in the light of a particular vision of God. In terms of values prized by the world those who choose to live in this way may seem to be placing themselves at*

*a disadvantage. But, in the light of God's faithfulness, they are really placing themselves in the most advantageous and fruitful position of all.*

*The biblical sense of 'Blessed those who . . . ' lying behind the Beatitudes is basically that of 'Congratulations!' – the sort of thing we say to someone who has won the lottery. We are not commending them for being virtuous. We are acknowledging their good fortune and sharing their joy; we're saying, 'You're in a good place!'*

*Other things being equal, the attitudes and situations that Jesus here commends are not in themselves a recipe for getting on in the world. All cohere around the core idea of living in a non-competitive, non-grasping way. To be poor in spirit (as well as being actually poor); to be gentle and unselfish, rather than on the make; to be prepared to weep alongside the unfortunate rather than avoid them; to work for justice and peace; to exercise mercy and be single-minded in pursuit of the good ('pure in heart') to be ready to endure persecution and calumny for the sake of the gospel: all these things make one vulnerable here and now, entailing much loss. But then we have to note the second clause in each beatitude, stating the reason for the 'blessedness' in each case. All those passives: 'shall be comforted', 'shall be satisfied', 'shall have mercy show to them', and so forth, indicate, in biblical parlance, the action of God. To live in this way, according to these values, makes supreme sense if God truly is as Jesus reveals God to be. It is only in the context of faith in such a God that living according to the Beatitudes makes sense and is, in fact, the supreme wisdom. Now it may involve vulnerability and loss; in the perspective of faith and the hope for the Kingdom of Heaven that faith holds out, it is hard-headed commonsense. That is why those who, following Jesus, adopt this way of life, are to be 'congratulated', why they are 'blessed'.*

*It is by living in this 'blessed' way that the disciples can be, 'Salt of the earth', 'Light of the world'*

## Catechist Sunday - 5th February - 10.30am Mass



We welcome all catechist to join us for a Commissioning Mass, as we begin a new year at our local state schools.

If you have a spare hour a week and would like to find out more about becoming a catechist and visiting our local primary schools, please contact Sr Elenita. Training and support will be provided.

### Piety Store

The Catholic Columban calendars for 2023 still available.  
Weather statues of Our Lady of Fatima in all sizes.  
Come visit!!

### St. Brigid's Young Beacons Parents and Families



### St. Brigid's Feast Day Preparation

Calling all St. Brigid's Young Beacons and Families  
We need your help to prepare for the Special Occasion of the Feast of St. Brigid.

WHEN: Sunday 5th February after 10:30 am Mass

WHERE: In the Monastery

#### ACTIVITY DETAILS:

Prayer, Morning Tea (please bring something to share if you can). We will add some more paper squares to our St. Brigid's Cloak and we will also complete an additional craft activity.



RSVP: [christopher@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:christopher@stbrigid.org.au)

### St. Brigid's Outreach AOK – Acts of Kindness Community Outreach

You are invited to join us in serving people in need at Woolloomooloo.

**When:** 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.  
Leaving around 5:00pm from Shrublands Hall.  
Serving the homeless starts at 6:00pm and finishes around 7:15pm, return to Shrublands hall at approximately 7:30pm.  
Transport provided to and from Shrublands hall.  
Spaces are limited to 4 people per session.

RSVP: [outreach@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:outreach@stbrigid.org.au)

### INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC



- ◆ Do you know or someone you know wish to become a Catholic?
- ◆ Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith?
- ◆ Are you Baptised Catholic, but never been confirmed or received the First Eucharist?

#### Let us walk this journey with you!

Come every 2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Parish Office.

If you are interested, please email Sr. Rosana at [rosana@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:rosana@stbrigid.org.au)

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

As we prepare for the year ahead we will begin Children's Liturgy during Sunday Mass.



We are looking for volunteers to join our roster system. If you are interested please see Sr Elenita. No training needed.

### CONVOCATION ON SYNODALITY – WHY WE SHOULD CARE

Archbishop Timothy Costelloe, President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference will introduce a virtual Convocation on synodality, *The Synod on Synodality: Why we should care*, at 7.30pm AEDT on **Thursday 2 February**.

Speakers, including **Susan Pascoe**, **Francis Sullivan** and **Patricia Gemmell** will discuss the *Document for the Continental Stage of the Synod* and current work on the imminent Bishops' response. Sponsored by Australasian Catholic Coalition for Church Reform, Garratt Publishing and YTU-University of Divinity.

FREE REGISTRATION:  
Go to [www.garratt.com.au](http://www.garratt.com.au)

**HOLY SPIRIT PILGRIMAGE  
TO HOLY LAND AND/OR ITALY**  
(28th August - 19th September, 2023):  
CONTACT-US-ASAP for details:  
Coordinator: Dax: 0420643949



KEYBOARD LOOKING FOR NEW HOME  
One of the parish keyboards is looking for a new home. If you are interested please let one of the staff know.





## Mass Texts: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### **First Reading: Zeph 2:3, 3:12-13**

In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people

### **Response:**

Happy the poor in spirit, the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

### **Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:26-31**

God has chosen what is weak by human reckoning

### **Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!**

Your reward will be great in heaven. Alleluia!

### **Gospel: Mt 5:1-12**

Happy are the poor in spirit



## Parish Calendar 2023

### **February**

2nd	Thur	7.00pm	Parish Finance Meeting
3rd	Fri	7.30pm	Men's Club
5th	Sun	10.30am	Young Beacons
6th	Mon	6.30pm	Bereavement Meeting
7th	Tue	7.00pm	Outreach Meeting
12th	Sun	10.30am	St Brigid's Feast Day
15th	Wed	7.00pm	Reconciliation Parent Information night
19th	Sun	1.30pm	Senior's Group
22nd	Wed	9am & 7pm	Ash Wednesday
28th	Thur	7.00pm	Parish Pastoral Council

### **March**

3rd	Fri	7.30pm	Men's Club
6th	Mon	6.30pm	Bereavement Meeting

## Liturgical Timetable

<b>Mon - Wed - Fri:</b>	Adoration and Benediction at 8.45am followed by <b>Mass at 9.00am.</b> Followed by Rosary
<b>Tues</b>	<b>Mass at 6:45</b>
<b>Thurs:</b>	Mass at 6.45am followed by Rosary
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>Mass at 8:00am followed by Holy Rosary</b>
	Reconciliation: 4.30pm. Mass: 5.00pm (Live-streamed) & 6.30pm (Vietnamese)
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>Mass at 8.00am; 10.30am (bilingual); 4.00pm (Viet); and 6pm.</b>

### 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 the Mass.

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

## Sunday Mass Liturgical Ministries Roster

	Lectors/Commentators		Communion Ministers		Acolytes / Altar Servers		Collector In-charge
	28/29 Jan	4/5 Feb	28/29 Jan	4/5 Feb	28/29 Jan	4/5 Feb	
Saturday 5:00pm	Com: Kelelia A Lec: Michael S	Com: Paul C Lec: Leila W	M. Dillon Vinh N Carole P Michael P Liz B	M. Dillon Vinh N Liz B Shelley H Thu H	M. Dillon Vinh N. Sophia N.	M. Dillon Vinh N. Sophia N.	Jim Yeo Michael P.
Sunday 8:00am	Com: Sabina A Lec: Mary L	Com: Joseph F Lec: Jim Y	Dennis M Vinh N F. Seufale Margaret K	Dennis M Vinh N F. Seufale Margaret K	Dennis M. Vihn N. Agustine E.	Dennis M. Vihn N. Agustine E.	Peter H. Maria M.
Sunday 10:30am	Com: Bernadette Lec: Dana T Ital: Franklin C	Com: Sue K Lec: Frank C Ital: Tony C	Albert N Anthony N John Mc Joanne Mc	Albert N Anthony N Frank C Maria B	Albert N Anthony N	Albert N Anthony N	Tony C. Giuseppe S
Sunday 6:00pm	Com: Katrina F Lec: Patricia T	Com: Kristine Lec: Adrienne H	Tony H Arthur K Jackie K John S	Tony H Arthur K Jackie K John S	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](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org) or 9390 5810. You may also 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.