



## 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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Facebook: [St Brigid's Marrickville](https://www.facebook.com/StBrigidMarrickville)

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Ms Elena Di Perna ([parishbookkeeper@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:parishbookkeeper@stbrigid.org.au))

Parish Secretary: Ms Terrey Trethowan (9.30am - 4pm)

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

**Holy Trinity Sunday –Year A 06/07 June 2020**

**From Monday 8 June 2020**

**Mass will be celebrated at  
St. Brigid's on**

**MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY  
Mornings at 9:00AM.**

**Parishioners are invited to book to  
attend a maximum of ONE of these  
masses each wee (attendance limited  
to 50 PEOPLE ONLY at each mass).**

**Bookings may be made between  
9.30am AND 4.00pm on Monday,  
Wednesday and Friday ONLY:  
by phoning the Parish Office on  
8577 5670 OR by e-mail at:  
[elenita@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:elenita@stbrigid.org.au).**

**In accordance with government  
regulations regarding COVID -19, you  
will be asked for you name AND  
contact phone number for tracing  
purposes, and you are strongly  
urged to bring personal sanitiser to  
the church and to wear mask and  
gloves while in the church**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
CO-OPERATION.**

**Keep Safe**

### Reflection

#### **OVERFLOWING GOODNESS AND LOVE: GOD THE TRINITY**

One of the most fascinating things about being alive is the other people in our lives. Just as fascinating is the fact that the more we know them, the more there is still to know.

Husbands and wives regularly report that even after more than twenty years together they are still being regularly surprised by glimpses of new things about the other. So it's only bit by bit that they can revel and rejoice in all the different and charming things about the other, who will always remain something of a mystery. It's the same with our knowledge and love of God – of God as Father, of God as Son, and of God as Holy Spirit. While God is anything but a closed book, it may take even years of keeping company with God, before we become aware of the pieces that make up that great Mystery.

There are at least three ways of delving into the Mystery of the Trinity. One is by searching for how something that is one can also be three. In this approach it might help to compare the Trinity to a tree. The Father is like the trunk of the one tree, the Son is like a branch of the same tree, and the Spirit is like the fruit that the same tree produces. Or we might compare the Father to the sun in the sky, the Son of God to its rays, and the Spirit to its heat. Or we might think of the three as like three musical notes played together as one harmonious chord.

Another approach is to concentrate more directly on the relationship of the Trinity to us. The first thing that has to be said about this is that, strictly speaking, God is self-sufficient. In the interpersonal relationships that have existed for ever among Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God has been completely and perfectly happy and satisfied. But it is God's overflowing goodness that has led God to create us human beings in God's own image and likeness. It is God's overflowing goodness that has led God's Son to become a human being like us and live his life for others. It is God's overflowing goodness that has led God to give us our beautiful world to both preserve and develop in a harmonious balance. And it is God's overflowing goodness that has led God to destine us for everlasting life with God on the other side of this life.

The other thing that needs to be said is that the interpersonal relationships of our three-in-one God, shows us that to be a person we need other people in our lives, other people to love us, and other people for us to love. In the 1960's there was a popular song that said: 'I am a rock. I am an island. And a rock feels no pain. And an island never cries.' That message is a lie. For while there are times when healthy human beings like to be alone and deliberately choose their own company, there is something wrong if they're always saying like the famous Swedish actress, Greta Garbo: 'I want to be alone.' This is because we need the company and influence of others to animate us, to draw us out of ourselves, to complete us, to challenge and comfort us. It's not for nothing that in the Genesis story of the creation of woman, God says: 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner' (2:18).

Some time ago I heard about a particular man who was so utterly alone in this world that nobody ever shook his hand, patted his back, gave him a hug, a friendly dig in the ribs, or even a wave. He became so desperately lonely that the only thing left for him to look forward to, was a monthly visit to his hairdresser, where at least for a few minutes someone would touch him and care for him.

Loneliness can be an acute experience of sadness and emptiness. This is

particularly so for people placed in solitary confinement. I read a while back about a certain prison ward. The prisoners were given enough to eat. But they were not allowed to talk to each other. They were not allowed to work together because work leads to contact and conversation. They were not even allowed to listen to others on the radio or watch television. And of course they were never allowed even one visitor. After months of this cruel treatment, there was not a single prisoner with even a skerrick left of self-esteem or self-confidence. More recently an Australian government minister is proposing to pass into law his intention to take away their phones from asylum-seekers. Imagine what that will do to their sense of isolation and abandonment!

I hope and pray that none of us here will ever feel so isolated or alone, and especially when we have to face that particular human experience, which no one else can face for us - our death. What happens on the other side of that experience? What will we find there? Our faith tells us, that whatever else there will be, we will enjoy the company of other human beings. And more than that, on the other side of our death God will be waiting for us. The God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The God who has made us. The God who has loved us. The God who has understood us. The God who has forgiven us. The God who has kept us going. The God who has taken us finally to Godself.

This is what we are celebrating in our feast of the Trinity. This is why we are giving praise and thanks to God in prayer today. Because God is not alone. Because we are not alone, and never will be. And so let us pray together and mean every word we say: 'Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.'

[bgleesoncp@gmail.com](mailto:bgleesoncp@gmail.com)

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**TRINITY SUNDAY READINGS**

**First Reading: Ex 34:4-6. 8-9**

**Moses met God in the form of a cloud. God revealed the foundational truth that underlies the commandments Moses was carrying: the Lord is compassion and tenderness, slow to anger and rich in kindness.**

**Responsorial Psalm: Dn 3:52-56.**

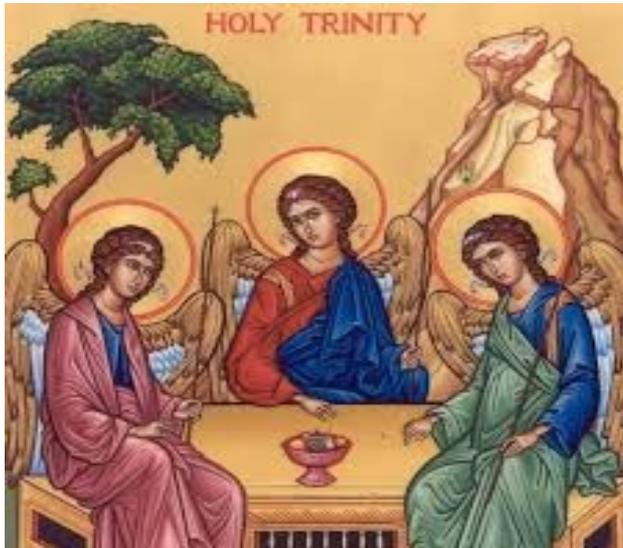
(R.) Glory and praise for ever!

**Second Reading: 2 Cor 13:11-13**

In Paul's letter we hear how the early Christian community were encouraged to embody this Trinitarian loving relationship, in how they lived and greeted one another. As we consider the restrictions we have been living under, may we truly value and cherish our bonds of friendship.

**Gospel: Jn 3:16-18**

In John's Gospel, Jesus reveals to Nicodemus the depth of God's love for all people. God sent his Son so that all may have eternal life.



<https://www.soulshpherd.org/enjoy-the-hospitality-of-the-trinity-with-rublevs-icon/>

### Henri Nouwen's Meditation on Rublev's Icon

What a joy it is for us to be drawn into this circle of divine love portrayed in Rublev's icon! In the words of Henri Nouwen: The more we look at this holy image with the eyes of faith, the more we come to realize that it is painted not as a lovely decoration for a convent church, nor as a helpful explanation of a difficult doctrine, but as a holy place to enter and stay within. As we place ourselves in front of the icon in prayer, we come to experience a gentle invitation to participate in the intimate conversation that is taking place among the three divine angels and to join them around the table. The movement from the Father toward the Son and the movement of both Son and Spirit toward the Father become a movement in which the one who prays is lifted up and held secure... We come to see with our inner eyes that all engagements in this world can bear fruit only

when they take place within this divine circle... the house of perfect love (Behold the Beauty of the Lord: Praying with Icons, p. 20-22).

Praying to the Lord before Rublev's icon painting can help us to join Abraham in hosting the Lord in our hearts. As we do we discover that the Father, Son, and Spirit were already inviting us to join in their circle of love! "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

When we participate in "The Hospitality of Abraham" to the Lord we discover that really we are responding to "The Hospitality of the Trinity."

## From the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office

### Cyber Safety Survey

On behalf of the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office are requesting you to take an anonymous **5 minute Cyber Safety Survey**. Adults, young people and children can participate and you don't have to have children in order to take the survey. The results of the Survey will help the Safeguarding Office to develop resources that will provide adults, young people and children with the knowledge and skills to help keep them safe online. The link to the survey is at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TC7CYQ3>

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"The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office has put some Fact Sheets on their website that provide children, young people, parents and guardians with information and skills on how to safely engage in online communication. These can be downloaded at <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/safeguarding-and-child-protection/safeguarding-resources/>."

### A message 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](http://sydneycatholic.org) OR 9390 5810. You may also 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.**

## 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 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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## PRAYER INTENTIONS

### Recently deceased

- ♦ George Rego
- ♦ Haitelenisia Kalolaine Tavaka
- ♦ Linda Nader
- ♦ Heneli Angianga
- ♦ Wadad Harb

### For the Sick

- ♦ Netti Kerpan
- ♦ Wenifreda Jauco

- ♦ Peter Ling
- ♦ Geoffrey Leask
- ♦ Mary Harte
- ♦ Ken & Maureen Mc Rae
- ♦ And all those infected with Corona-Virus

### Death Anniversaries

- ♦ Elizabeth Rose Matthews
- ♦ Rosa Batista
- ♦ Antonia Farrugia
- ♦ Vilma Vella
- ♦ Boulos Lakiss
- ♦ Angelo Di Tommaso
- ♦ Tannous Zeidan
- ♦ Harold Turner
- ♦ Peter Killalea

## Notices and announcement

**"For any donations please use the donation tab through our website**

**<https://stbrigid.org.au/>**

### **The following options are available"**

- ♦ General Donations
- ♦ 1st Collection
- ♦ 2nd Collection
- ♦ Events
- ♦ Baptisms
- ♦ Sacramental programs
- ♦ Weddings
- ♦ Other

### **For Cash Bank Deposit**

#### Bank Account Details

Acc Name: Marrickville Parish  
Bank: Commonwealth  
BSB: 062784  
Acc No 000003973  
Description: Parish Donation

### **FROM THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY...**

**THE DIGITAL EDITION OF THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY is available online**

**@ [www.catholicweekly.com.au](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au)**