



# 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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After hours emergency: 0401 772 139

## 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.

## Our Lord JESUS CHRIST, KING of the UNIVERSE - Year B

24th November, 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,*

### **Congratulations to our Children!**

*Last weekend, we had the joy of participating in a truly special Confirmation celebration at the Cathedral. Our parish was honoured to have the largest number of children confirmed, a testament to the faith and dedication of our community. The liturgy was deeply moving, enriched by the presence of four bishops and a few priests, including Frs. Cong and Giltus. Antonella, the principal of St. Brigid Primary School, and a few teachers joined to support our children.*

*The children looked elegant, dressed in care and grace for this sacred occasion. Their reverence and joy shone brightly, making the day even more meaningful. The parents' pride was evident, as they bowed with love and gratitude as they witnessed this significant milestone in their children's faith journey.*

*A heartfelt thanks to our parish sacramental preparation team, Sr. Elenita, Jackie, Arthur, and Jim, for their tireless work preparing the children for this important step in their faith journey. Your commitment has helped these young hearts open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and your efforts will surely bear fruit in their lives. Let us continue to pray for these newly confirmed as they grow in their relationship with God and become active witnesses of Christ in the world. Congratulations, children!*

PS: no pictures taken due to consent issues.

### **Annual Memorial Mass**

*This past Tuesday, our parish gathered for the Annual Memorial Mass - a deeply moving and emotionally powerful liturgy. It was a sacred time to honour and remember our departed loved ones, touching the pain and grief that so many carry in their hearts.*





*The presence of so many family members who lost a loved one this year was especially poignant. Their grief was tangible, yet their faith and courage to come together in prayer inspired all who were present.*

*The service reflected the compassionate embrace of our faith, offering comfort and care to our grieving families. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated Bereavement Team, (Sr. Elenita, Carol, Elizabeth, Michael and Arthur) whose thoughtful planning and pastoral presence made this liturgy so meaningful.*

*Their efforts reminded us of the importance of community in times of loss and helped to create a space where sorrow could meet the hope of God's eternal promise. Let us continue to hold all our departed loved ones in prayer. May they rest in peace, and may their families find strength and solace in God's loving care*

### ***Blessing the Refurbished Good Samaritan Building***

*Wednesday (20<sup>th</sup> Nov) marked a truly joyous and memorable occasion as we officially blessed and celebrated the refurbishment of the iconic Good Samaritan Building at Casimir Catholic College. Originally constructed in 1932, this beloved structure has been transformed into a stunning facility with 19 state-of-the-art classrooms and learning spaces. Its elegant design reflects both its rich heritage and its commitment to fostering vibrant, modern education for future generations.*

*The event was filled with joy and reverence as we came together to honour the history and significance of this building. We were blessed by the presence of Sr. Elizabeth and Sr. Agnes from the Good Samaritan Sisters, who were College Captains at the former St. Brigid's Girls School. Their stories reminded us of the deep connection between this space and the legacy of the Good Samaritan Sisters in shaping generations of students.*



*Antonella, the Principal of St. Brigid's Primary School, and the Passionist priests and Sisters added to the celebration, highlighting the enduring partnership between our schools and parish. This occasion celebrated not only a refurbished building but also a legacy that continues to inspire. It was a testament to the resilience of tradition, the beauty of renewal, and the shared commitment of our community to building a bright future.*

*Congratulations to Carmelina, the principal of Casimir Catholic Collage and all the staff and students on this momentous event.*

### **137th Anniversary of the Passionists' Arrival in Marrickville**

*On Thursday, 21st November, we marked the 137th anniversary of the arrival of the Passionists in Marrickville—a milestone rich in faith, love, and dedication. For so many years, the Passionists have provided generous pastoral care and unwavering commitment to the spiritual growth and well-being of St. Brigid's Parish. Their deep love for this community has been evident through their tireless service, compassion, and steadfast faith.*

*We remember with gratitude the many Passionists who have given their lives in ministry here, leaving a legacy of selfless devotion and a profound impact on countless lives. Their sacrifices and contributions remind us of the enduring power of God's love working through those who serve in His name.*



*As we reflect on the past with deep appreciation, we also pray for the future. May the Passionist community continue to be blessed with strength, wisdom, and grace to carry forward their mission in the years to come. May St. Brigid's Parish remain a vibrant, welcoming, and faith-filled home for all. May the Passion of Jesus be always in our hearts...*

### **Advent Prayer Wall**



*This Advent season, we invite you to take part in a special effort of prayer and reflection through our **Advent Prayer Wall**. Each week of Advent, you are encouraged to write prayers or reflections based on the four themes of the season: **Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love** or intentions for the world, for your family or for you.*

*The Prayer Wall will serve as a space for our parish community to share their heartfelt intentions, reflections, and hopes as we prepare for Christ's coming. Each week, the notes placed on the wall will be lovingly gathered and brought in procession during the Advent weekend Masses, and the mass will be offered for the intentions on the wall. Let us journey together through this sacred season, deepening our connection with God and with one another.*

*May the Advent Prayer Wall be a source of inspiration and grace for all.*

### **Thought for the Week**

*This weekend is Christ the King Sunday, a reminder that next week, we begin the season of Advent, and Christmas is around the corner. As we approach Christmas, life seems to accelerate. The days blur with to-do lists, holiday events, and the overwhelming busyness of modern life. It feels like our capacity—whether high or low—is maxed out or even exceeded. Yet, this isn't unique to us today. For centuries, people have struggled with the burden of busyness, and God, in His wisdom, provides a remedy: reflection.*

*Advent, the season of preparation leading to Christmas, is a time when the Church calls us to pause and reflect. Far from being just a countdown to festivities, it is an invitation to slow down and consider the miracle at the heart of Christmas: the Incarnation. This mystery—that the Almighty God became one of us in Jesus Christ—calls for more than fleeting acknowledgment. It deserves deep reflection. The practice of slowing down and meditating on what God has done is ancient. As Richard Foster reminds us in *Celebration of Discipline*, reflection is vital for the restoration of our souls. It realigns our priorities, grounds our identity, and opens our eyes to God's presence in our lives. Advent gives us a unique opportunity to meditate not only on the birth of Christ but also on how God has been actively shaping and guiding us throughout the past year.*

*Advent is a time to ask ourselves meaningful questions:*

- *How has God drawn me closer to Him this year?*
- *What joys, challenges, or transformations has He allowed me to experience?*
- *Where have I seen His hand at work, moulding my character or guiding my steps?*



*Taking time to reflect on these questions heightens the joy of Christmas because it reminds us that every moment of this past year has been touched by the miracle of the Incarnation. Jesus, who became one of us, knows our struggles and joys. He is actively at work in our lives, redeeming even the hardest moments for His glory.*

*Without reflection, the Christmas season risks becoming a flurry of activities that leave us exhausted and spiritually depleted. While the traditions and festivities are meaningful, they are not the core of Christmas. Failing to pause and prepare our hearts diminishes the richness of this holy time. Reflection enables resilience, joy, and gratitude, grounding us in the truth that Christmas is about God's overwhelming love for us—a love so profound that He chose to dwell among us.*

*Advent is a gift, a season to realign our hearts and minds with God's purpose. By slowing down, meditating on the Incarnation, and reflecting on God's work in our lives, we prepare ourselves to receive the full joy of Christmas. This preparation doesn't just enrich the holiday; it strengthens us for the year to come. It reminds us that every abundant year of life flows from the miracle in the manger.*

*This Advent, let us honour the season's purpose by creating space for stillness, reflection, and gratitude. A well-prepared Advent leads to a truly meaningful Christmas, one in which we celebrate not only Christ's birth but also His presence and work in our lives every day.*

*This Advent, I encourage you to embrace this season as a time of preparation and reflection. Let's journey together toward Christmas with purpose and intentionality. One way to do this is by joining for the **Advent Reflection Evenings**, where we will come together as a community to reflect on God's presence and promises in our lives.*

*These evenings will include Scripture, prayer, and quiet reflection, creating a sacred space for you to prepare your heart for the celebration of Christ's birth. Let this Advent be a season where you slow down, reconnect with God, and rediscover the profound joy of Christmas.*

**Join us for our Advent Reflection Evenings:**

- Dates:** 25<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2, 9 and 16<sup>th</sup> December
- Time:** 7pm-8.30 pm
- Location:** Shrubland Hall.



**Week 1:** *On Monday, we will explore the readings of the first week of Advent in the light of the first section of the document, **Truth and Justice: A Gospel in a Violent World**. The copy of the document can be found on <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au>.*

*Together, let's make this Advent a time of deep spiritual renewal, preparing our hearts for the miracle of Christmas.*

*Fr Giltus*

**‘Writings of St John Paul II on Gender, Marriage and Family’ Immersion Course**

Are you looking for a message of hope and healing in a time of confusion?

In partnership with the Sydney Centre for Evangelisation and the Theology of the Body Institute, the Archdiocese of Sydney is proud to announce once again that we will be hosting another not-to-be-missed 5-day immersion course experience:

At a time of great concern and confusion over the dignity of the creation of male and female, the sacred union of husband and wife, and the life-giving beauty of family, the Lord calls us to witness the Gospel now more than ever. If you are interested in learning more about TOB or feel you need to hear this transformative message, we strongly encourage you to register for this upcoming course in January 2025.

The course will be held at the beautiful Benedict XVI Retreat Centre in Grose Vale, NSW.

**DATES:** Sunday, 19 January to Friday, 24 January

**VENUE:** Benedict XVI Retreat Centre in Grose Vale,

To register and learn more about the course, please visit: [tobi.sydneycatholic.org](http://tobi.sydneycatholic.org)

For further questions, contact Simon Yeak [simon.yeak@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:simon.yeak@sydneycatholic.org) or 0427 536 356

**CARMELITE RETREAT - an Advent Recollection**

*Looking at the Heart of St Joseph :*

Day Retreat 7th December 10am - 4pm

Fr Ransom Rapirap OCD

Cost: \$30pp (bring your own lunch)

Please call 8795 3464 or 0481 035 989

247 St Andrew Rd, Varroville

**The Catholic Weekly - Only \$2.00**

- Parish knitters see red
- Archbishop inspires student leaders
- Street Feast feeds the homeless
- Martyr writes about Christ the King!
- A day of renewal for parish staff
- Sisters of our Lady of China



“For I know the plans I have for you, to give you Hope & a Future.”

Thursday 12th - Sunday 15th December, 2024  
Cobbity NSW

Calling all Young Adults  
iWitness is an annual young adults conference hosted in Sydney. The long weekend provides participants with a spiritually transformative experience, creating a space in which each person can grow in their love of God

E: [iwitnessconference@gmail.com](mailto:iwitnessconference@gmail.com)  
W: [iwitnessaustralia.com](http://iwitnessaustralia.com)

**Parish Christmas Raffle Tickets**

On sale from Monday  
\$5.00 per ticket or 5 for \$20



Great prizes

Selling tickets after Mass



**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:** Michael Dillon, Jose Figueira, Peter Trinh Doan Nguyen, Umberto Cambria

**Death Anniversaries:** Peter Nguyen Van Chen, Emanwel Bugeja, Zaghia Attie, Maria Nguyen Thi Tin, Agustinus Wiryadi Widjaja, Fr John Maihi, Doris Reynolds, James Joseph Smith, Tom Coorey.

**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, Colin Constantinou, Lilyan McAusland, Sasha Dennis Rances, Marie Thompson, George Baraket, Richard Hudson, Lia Naoumidis, Louta Mafi

**Other intentions:** Josephine & Joseph Farah, Wendy Lamb, Antonio de Nobrega, Soren Lindgaard Hansen and Lis Lindgaard Hansen, Spiro Anthony, Olga Haluzan, Betty Murphy, Joze Zvorc



# CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Reconciliation: Saturday 22nd @ 4.00pm

**Christmas Eve - Tuesday 24th**

6.00pm - Mass with Pageant

11.30pm - Carols

12.00pm - Midnight Mass



**Christmas Day - Wednesday 25th**

8.00am - Mass

10.30am - Mass with Pageant (livestreamed)

**Boxing day - Thursday 26th**

9.00am - Mass

Peace on Earth

## MARRICKVILLE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS



Celebrate the spirit of Christmas with our enchanting Carols. Gather with family and friends to enjoy the timeless melodies that echo the joy, warmth and love of the season.

**SATURDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2024 AT 7PM-9PM**

**Fireworks!**

**Santa & More**

Sales starts at 6pm

**BYO Chairs and Blankets**

**Sausage Sizzle and more!!!**

Come and Celebrate  
the Spirit of Christmas!!!

food  
Drinks  
ho ho ho!

FUN!



# 2024 Advent Reflection Series



## Journeying Towards Peace and Truth

Join us for a series of meaningful Advent reflections  
connecting scripture with the Australian Bishops'  
Social Justice Statement 2024-25:

### **"Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World."**

#### **Weekly Sessions**

Each session will open up the Readings of the  
weekend, encouraging reflection and dialogue as  
we prepare for Christmas.

**Time: 7pm to 8.30pm**

**Days: Mondays 25th Nov,  
2nd, 9th & 16th Dec**

#### **Don't Miss Out on This Advent Journey!**

Reflect deeply, explore your faith, and join in the  
call for peace and truth in today's world.

**All are welcome to attend  
any or all sessions.**

**St. Brigid's Adult Formation Team  
St. Brigid Parish Marrickville**

**Mass Texts: Our Lord Jesus CHRIST,**

**KING of the UNIVERSE**

First Reading: Dan 7:13-14  
His sovereignty is eternal.

Response: Ps 92:1-2, 5  
The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

Second Reading: Rev 1:5-8  
The ruler of the kings of the earth....made us a line kings, priests to serve his God.

Gospel Acclamation:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!



Gospel: Jn 18:33-37  
You say that I am king.

**PARISH CALENDAR 2024**

**NOVEMBER**

24th Sun 7.00pm Youth Group

**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

**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
	23/24 Nov	30 Nov/1 Dec	23/24 Nov	30 Nov/1 Dec	This weekend	
Saturday 5:00pm	Kelelia A Leila W Michael H	Margaret H Jim Y Ofa T	Gabrielle B Margaret H Elizabeth B Ofa T	Carole P Michael P Thu H Elizabeth B	Vinh N. Sophia N. Eidan S	Jim Y. Michael P.
Sunday 8:00am	Com: Marco G 1st: John S 2nd: Stephen O	Com: Margaret T 1st: Joseph F 2nd: Joanna V	F. Seufale Margaret K Joanna V	Geoffrey L Mary L John S	Dennis M. Luca G Antonella G	Peter H. Maria M.
Sunday 10:30am	Angie C Aiden Italian	Robert G Trang L Italian	Peter J John M Angie C Tony H	Angie C Benadette Y Giuseppe S Tony C	Albert N Anthony N	Tony C. Giuseppe S
Sunday 6:00pm	Casimir	Charlie E Charlene E Arthur K	Alexis Charlene E Charlie E	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](mailto: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.

