



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.

Second Sunday of Advent - Year C

8th 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,

Peace

Colman McCarthy is a very active 86-year-old journalist, teacher, and lecturer. In 1982 he was a columnist for the Washington Post and was invited to teach a course on creative writing at an impoverished public high school in Washington, D.C. He responded, "I'd rather teach peace." Since then, he has had thousands of students in his classes on non-violence, conflict management, and pacifism... including posts at the University of Maryland, Georgetown University Law Center, American University, and several other high schools.

Our liturgical readings for this Advent season, coupled with the overwhelming circumstances in the lives of so many today — refugees fleeing violence, victims of war and natural calamities, rising social inequalities, fatalities, domestic violence, homelessness, etc — has me thinking of McCarthy. While we wish God would wave a magic wand and make it all cease (and God could surely do that), we know God chooses to work through our efforts. Each time we choose forgiveness instead of retaliation or vengeance is a choice for peace. Each effort made to create a just world is part of peacebuilding. All of these are individual building blocks of peace to construct an unshakable house of peace to shelter us all.

Colman McCarthy's conviction that peace is teachable and achievable echoes the Advent call to prepare the way for the Lord, not with resignation to despair but with hope-filled action. As we reflect on the beautiful prophecy from Isaiah, "The wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat," we are reminded of God's vision of harmony and peace for creation. This is not merely an ancient poetic dream but a living call for us today, even amidst modern-day challenges. Whether it's the devastation of natural disasters or the long road to reconciliation with First Nations peoples, our efforts to build bridges over divisions & create spaces for peace are vital.

Our collaboration on a global scale, such as Australia's participation in international research projects, mirrors the cooperation that brought about achievements like the Hubble and James Webb Space Telescopes. Such efforts remind us that humanity thrives when we build together, a principle echoed by Pope Francis' call to "build bridges, not walls."

Advent is not just a time of waiting but of active preparation. Each small act of choosing peace, from fostering understanding in our homes to advocating for justice on larger scales, is a brick in the house of peace that shelters all. This is

the prophecy of Isaiah alive today, calling us to embrace a vision of unity and hope.

On the first day of his classes on non-violence, McCarthy always asks his students why they are taking the class. One high school senior wrote, "I have always admired Gandhi since the seventh grade. I believe that nonviolence is the most effective way to get what I want: a just world. I want to learn about the history of nonviolent action. There is a whole side of history/social studies which I have not been exposed to. This class will be my vehicle to take me out to the real world and how to confront injustice. I will hopefully take what I learn and bring it to my activist groups and we can be more productive. Most of all, I want to be inspired."

This Advent, let us dare to dream and act for a world transformed by the peace of Christ.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Frs. Cong and Doan on passing the IELTS! This is no small achievement, especially amidst the busyness of parish life. Your hard work and dedication have paid off, opening the door to applying for a long-term visa to continue your ministry here in Australia. Wishing you all the best as you take this next step forward. May God continue to bless you in your mission and service!

Christmas Cribs

A heartfelt thank you to Fr. Cong, Fr. Doan, Tony, and the Vietnamese community, for their incredible creativity and dedication in preparing two beautiful Christmas cribs this year. They are truly a testament to the joy and hope of this holy season. It was a privilege to bless the crib during last Sunday's 10.30am liturgy with the children, making it a memorable and meaningful moment for everyone. The hard work of these men and women has brought great joy to our parish—thank you for sharing your gifts so generously! May the beauty of the Nativity continue to inspire us all.



School Graduation

This Tuesday, we celebrated our primary school's year 6 graduation. It was a joyful celebration of

the achievements, growth, and hard work of our graduating students. It was a moment to reflect on their journey through primary school, the friendships formed, and the valuable lessons learned along the way. Hon. Jo Haylen, BA MP: Member of the Legislative Assembly, Member for Summer Hill, Minister for Transport, and Member of the Australian Labor Party, join us, acknowledging our Year 6 student leaders for 2024 and adding a special touch to the event. As we send our graduates off to their next chapter in high school, we wish them all the best for a bright and successful future. May they continue to embrace challenges, dream big, and carry the values they've learned with them always. Congratulations, Year 6 and the teachers and staff of St. Brigid Primary School.

Welcome Back and Special Welcome Message

It is with great joy and gratitude that we welcome back Fr. Joachim to our community after 12 remarkable years in Rome as Superior General. Your leadership, dedication, and wisdom have been a source of inspiration to so many, and we are truly blessed to have you back among us. We look forward to this new chapter of your journey with us.

A warm and heartfelt welcome also to Fr Alessandro CP, who has faithfully served as Fr. Joachim's personal secretary over these past 12 years. We are delighted to have you visiting Australia and hope that your time here will be restful, enriching, and filled with memorable experiences.

Fr Giltus





Week 03

ADVENT REFLECTION

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

The Messiah

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

Monday
09 December 2024
07.00 PM

JOIN US ➔

 Our Location
St Brigid Parish, Marrickville



Vinnies Christmas Appeal

We have our annual Christmas Appeal this weekend. 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 on-going 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



Lady looking for granny flat to rent in the local area. If you can help please call the parish office.

Free plush king size bed and base to give away. Please contact the parish office if interested

The Catholic Weekly - Only \$2.00

- Walking the Aussie Camino
- Sydney's newest priests are on their "Way"
- The engineer building a passion for faith
- A too-easy Christian dessert
- Fidelis: The Dos and Don'ts of relationships
- Holy Innocents Croydon turns 100 years

Boarding House Christmas Party

Saturday 14th December
2024 from 11am



Denroma Boarding House
36 England Ave, Marrickville



Thank you for the gifts already left at the Church. Any further gifts after Sunday please leave at the parish office.

A recap of ways you can help make the party a success:

- * **Musicians and singers most welcome. If you have a keyboard, it would be a great help. Again, contact the parish office**



* **Food may be left at Shrublands Hall at 10.30am or at Denroma from 11am.**



Transport for those wishing to join us, is available from Shrublands Hall leaving at 10.45am.

The party usually finishes between 1.30pm - 2pm. We will bring you back to the Hall.

Looking forward to sharing our time, love and energy with our friends at Denroma.

Enquiries: please call the parish on 8577 5670

Recently Deceased: Peter Trinh Doan Nguyen, Umberto Cambria, Isaura Estrela-Santa, Rita De Gois

Death Anniversaries: John Blackall, Joe Townsend,, Peter Maihi, Maria Vu Thi Tu, Maria Grazia Trimboli, Jose Ribeiro, Tamam Coorey, Mark Maihi, Frank & Carmen Caruana, Jose Avelino Ribeiro, Adelino Alves, Lilian Cipolla, Antonino Travia, Tony Schemlei

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, Paul Cloran

Other intentions: Josephine & Joseph Farah, Wendy Lamb, Violet Macrozonaris, Jose Figuerira, Boulos El-Azzi



Mass Texts: Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9
Jerusalem - God will show you splendour.

Response: Ps 125
The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading: Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
Show yourself sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!



Gospel: Lk 3:1-6
All people shall see the salvation of God.

PARISH CALENDAR 2024

DECEMBER

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
		7.00pm	Youth Group
24th	Tues	6.00pm	Mass with Pageant
		11.30pm	Carols
		Midnight	Mass



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
	7/8 Dec	14/15 Dec	7/8 Dec	14/15 Dec	This weekend	
Saturday 5:00pm	Elizabeth B Thu H Michael P	Gabrielle B Laura N Paul C	Margaret H Ofa T Thu H Leila W	Elizabeth B Michael P Kelelia A Vinh N	Vinh N. Sophia N. Eidan S	Jim Y. Michael P.
Sunday 8:00am	Com: Stephen O 1st: John S 2nd: Marco G	Com: Esther G 1st: Mary L 2nd: Geoffrey L	Mary L Stephen O Dennis M	F. Seufale Margaret K John S	Dennis M. Luca G Antonella G	Peter H. Maria M.
Sunday 10:30am	Dana T Mely S Italian	Frank C Bernadette S Italian	John M Aiden K Tony H Angie C	Bernadette Y Giuseppe S Tony C Jenny O	Albert N Anthony N	Tony C. Giuseppe S
Sunday 6:00pm	Kevin B Rex H Charlie E	Arthur K Karen W Robert W	Arthur K Alexis H Lenore D	Kevin B Rex H Lina E	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.

