



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 Tom McDonough CP	Fr Dominic Samamba CP
Sr Elenita Flores CP	Sr Elena Daton CP
Fr Thomas Thanh 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

Second Sunday of Easter - YEAR C 24th April 2022

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

Fr Tom writes

Dear Friends in the Parish Family,

The really BIG feasts of the Church are celebrated for eight days. It is called an 'octave' (from the Latin word for '8'), and it 'stretches' the celebrations. In some cultures weddings and funerals also take place over a number of days.

As young religious back in the 1960's, we had to fast and do penance three days each week, and our meals were very simple anyway. So we LOVED Octaves - at Christmas, and Easter and the Assumption - because we did not have to do penance and we got, not one but two deserts every day.Well, we were only teenagers!!

The Church actually stretches the Easter feast for 50 days, culminating on the feast of Pentecost. During these weeks, we Christians live differently than we did during the 40 days of Lent. Our Sunday readings explore all the wonderful 'newness' of being truly 'alive', alive in Christ, alive in love - being loved and giving love. At the Easter Vigil last weekend the newly baptised were clothed in brilliant white garments, anointed with perfume, given a lighted candle, feasted on the body and blood of Christ, were welcomed with big hugs and applause into their new family. They were surrounded by the love and joy of all of us in the congregation, and in this way, also filled with the love, the joy and the embrace of Jesus himself. This is what we are all invited to celebrate during these 50 Easter days.

However, this weekend is the Octave Day of Easter, called Divine Mercy Sunday by St John Paul 11. But it is not the end of Easter. We are just getting started. So for the next 6 weeks, don't keep thinking Easter is over, every day is Easter all over again. Add some "Alleluia" to your

life. Make your family prayer a joy, not an obligation, - it's a chance for you to spend time with Jesus who loved you so much, He died for you. Take time to see how beautiful are so many of the ordinary things we take for granted, how beautiful are the people we share life with. You gave up a lot in Lent, so now 'reward' yourself with special treats. - Have an extra desert or two!!

Remember it is Divine Mercy Sunday. God surrounds you, immerses you, in a sea of Mercy. With a grateful heart, enjoy being loved infinitely by the God in whose image you are created, loved infinitely by Christ, into whose likeness you have been transformed by baptism. Remember St Teresa of Avila who couldn't abide sour-faced saints. Look happy, and be happy.

Finally there are not enough words to thank the many, many people who made our Holy Week-Easter celebrations possible. Very, very few parishes would be able to celebrate these celebrations with the beauty, depth, heart and soul that we experience here at St Brigid's. We owe so much to the energy, art, skills and creativity of so many - from celebrants to children, - from the High Altar to the Easter Egg hunt, - from singers and musicians to those who cleaned the church - thank you, you know who you are. There is nothing like Holy Week and Easter.

Fr. Tom.



BELIEVING IN JESUS IS PERSONAL

When we come together for Mass every Sunday, we come to remember Jesus. Our presence and participation in the Eucharist is an act of faith - an act of personal faith and an act of shared faith. In praying together, we also help one another to believe, hope, and love more strongly. So, we become a stronger Christian community. It might be said of us what was said in our First Reading today about the infant Church in Jerusalem: "... the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily."

Our shared faith is above all faith in Jesus Christ. We believe that he has risen from the dead, that he is alive in himself and alive in us, and that he is our Teacher, King, and Leader. But nobody can do our believing for us. This is powerfully illustrated in our gospel story today.

It's Easter Sunday and the disciples are huddled together in a locked room. After what happened to Jesus just two days before, they dare not venture out because of fear for their lives. But Jesus himself does not hide from them. Suddenly he comes among them. His greeting is peace. Their response is joy. For the storyteller John, Easter Sunday is Pentecost, and the gift of the Spirit is the breath of the Risen Christ. The disciples breathe in the Spirit and the Spirit becomes part of their lives. Soon they will leave the Upper Room changed persons - fearless, energetic, and zealous people. In short, they will leave as persons animated, fired, and propelled outwards by the Holy Spirit.

But one of their group is missing. His name is Thomas. He is one of the apostles, part of the group. But he is also a distinct, independent self, a real individual. He cannot be both loyal to the group and disloyal to his inner self. That would make his loyalty deceitful and worthless. For Thomas, honesty and sincerity are, in fact, more important than loyalty and belonging. So, when the others say, 'We have seen the Lord,' he declares strongly and emphatically that before he is willing to believe that Jesus has risen and is alive, he must see and test the evidence for himself. He won't accept that claim just on their say-so. It's his honesty, then, that makes him doubt and leads to him being called ever afterward 'Doubting Thomas.'

We learn from the gospel story that Thomas comes to believe in the Risen Jesus in the same way as the other disciples, i.e., when he sees the Lord for himself. But in the way that John tells the story, Thomas stands for all those who have not yet seen the Lord in the flesh but who are called to believe in him just the same. That's where we come into the story. We are among those many generations of believers ever afterward of whom it may be said:

'Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

One reason that Thomas was so slow to believe, is that he was such a rugged individual, a real self-starter. The other is because he was not present when Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit into his fellow disciples.

But Jesus has given the Spirit to you and me, first at Baptism, then at Confirmation, and subsequently, at every Eucharist we celebrate. The Spirit which Jesus gives is the Spirit of truth. It's the same Spirit that empowers us to say to Jesus with Thomas: 'My Lord and my God!'

Our faith is one of the main gifts the Spirit has given us. But it is not a one-off gift that we lock away in a safe like some precious jewel. As a form of life, we must let our faith grow and mature. On the other hand, like other forms of life, our faith can wither and die from neglect and lack of exercise. We need to pray about our faith, think about our faith, and express it in works of love.

This does not mean that we will never have any doubts. After all, even the great Mother Teresa had to struggle with doubts her whole life long. But if like Thomas we care about what we believe, surely sooner or later our faith, revived by the Holy Spirit, will bring us into the presence of God in the person of Jesus, whom our Second Reading today calls 'the Living One,' alive in himself, and alive in us, through the Holy Spirit, his second self.

Let's make sure, then, that our faith in Jesus, risen and alive, is truly our own, and not simply borrowed!

bgleesoncp@gmail.com

Mass Texts: Second Sunday Easter

First Reading: Acts 5:12-16

The apostles are brought before the Sanhedrin and ordered to stop speaking in Jesus' name.

Response:

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for His Love is everlasting.

Second: Revelation 5:11-14

John describes his vision of the praises that will be sung to the Lamb by every creature on heaven and earth.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; Happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Gospel: John 21:1-19

Jesus appears to the disciples for a third time after his Resurrection and shares a meal with them.

Ave Maria,
I Greet You Mother Mary
Concert

13th May 2022
From 7:00pm – 9:00pm
At St Brigid's church
Marrickville

To celebrate Marian's day, there will be Hymns performed by different choirs from our community. We invite you to celebrate with us on this day as a Fundraising concert for St Brigid's church.

St. Brigid's Young
Beacons
Parents and Families



All children and families are invited to join us to prepare gifts for Mothers' Day

When: Sunday 1st of May 2022, Mass at 10:30am immediately followed by Card and Gift Making after Mass.

Where: St Brigid's Church & afterwards in the Shrublands Hall

Activities include Mary prayer, making tulip cards and small gifts for our St. Brigid's Community. Morning Tea will be provided. Mums, Dads and families are always welcome!

Please join us as we celebrate the

blessing



of the

GRANDE PIPE ORGAN

Over the past two years our organ has been repaired and rebuilt and the Choir Gallery has been refurbished. While most of this project is now completed the remaining work will be finished as funds become available. Donations are still very welcome.

This extensive project was made possible through the generous encouragement, prayers and donations from so many of our loyal parishioners and friends (current and past). We will always be grateful to the many parishioners who gifted their time, skill, expertise, and advice to make this project a reality.

This significant event in our Parish's history will be celebrated at a dedicated **10:30am Mass on Sunday, 1st May, 2022.** The Mass will include a special blessing of the organ and gallery and will be followed by light refreshments. Pop the date into your diary now!!



Online training program for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

ACU Centre for Liturgy is offering a new online training program for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, supported by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. Classes start April 27.

For further information see our website

<http://www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training> or contact the center on (02) 9701 475

or CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au.

Recently Deceased: Bernadette Anne Lowe, Kathleen Russell, Adelia Volpato.

Death Anniversaries: Dao Thi Lua, Sr Denise Cashman RSM, Rev Laurie Jennings, Clare Habermann, Michel Tabar, Joseph Hoang Van Pham, Michael Pearce, Joseph Tran, Gaetano Buda, Richard Paul Coorie, Anna Le Thi Thuc, Marguerite Formosa, Angelo Bergamin, Mary Kerpan, Merlin Roberts, Francis & Earl Guilfoyle, Maria Hien Thi Do, Joseph Duong Van Do, Jeffrey Newton.

Carrying Severe Illness: Mely Siasat; Renato Di Perna; George Turchi; Kevin Boyce; Peter Hatchinson; Josephine (Deacon Christopher's mother); Falakiko Sevelo Kama; Adelia Candi; Joseph Chaina; Margaret Kelley; Elizabeth Pizzuto; John Thomas, James Misingongo.

Other Intentions: Wendy Lamb



Parish Collection 17/4/2022

First Collection \$3,655.00

First collection supports the Passionist community, all the priests, and brothers who are part of the St. Brigid's community and whose ministry nourishes our lives. A portion of this collection is passed to the Archdiocese, to support the ministry of the Archbishop, and support priests in remote areas across Australia and those who are in ill-health or who have retired.

Second Collection \$4,119.00

The Second collection, which includes our Planned Giving program, is for the Parish. It supports the maintenance and growth of our parish's mission, including the administration costs in running the parish. This collection goes towards our building maintenance costs, including insurance, utilities, cleaning & rubbish removal.

Thank you for supporting St Brigid's Parish

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 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.

Parish Calendar 2022

May

- 1st Sun Young Beacons
- 2nd Mon Bereavement Meeting - 6:30pm
- 5th Thu Parish Finance Committee Meeting 7pm
- 6th Fri Anointing of Sick - 9.00am
Men Club - 7.30pm
- 8th Sun Charitable Works Fund Collection
Mother's Day
- 13th Fri Marian Concert - 7pm
- 15th Sun Senior's Group - 2pm
- 18th Wed Maintenance Meeting - 7pm
- 24th Tues Parish Council Meeting - 7pm

June

- 3rd Fri Men's Club
- 5th Sun Pentecost Sunday
- 6th Mon Bereavement Meeting 6.30pm
- 7th Tue Outreach Main Group Meeting 7.00pm

Liturgical Timetable

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

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.

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

Sunday Mass Liturgical Ministries: 2nd and 3rd Sunday of Easter -Year C

	Lectors/Commentators		Communion Ministers		Acolytes / Altar Servers		Collector In-charge
	23/24 April	30 Apr/1 May	23/24 April	30 Apr/1 May	23/24 April	30 Apr/1 May	
Sat 5:00pm	Tongan Community	Paul Cloran Liz B.	M. Dillon Liz Buchel M. Price C. Price	M. Dillon Jim Yeo Kelelia A. Ofa Tupola	M. Dillon	M. Dillon	Jim Yeo Michael P.
Sun 8:00am	P. Thomas Libby Denny	Sue King Margaret T.	D. Maher M. Turner Vinh Nguyen F. Seufale	Dennis M. Vinh Nguyen F. Seufale Peter J.	D. Maher Vihn Nguyen	D. Maher	Peter H. Maria M.
Sun 10:30am	Maria B. Italian A. Chiapocco	Catherine V. Italian John M.	Albert N. Anthony N T. Cipolla G. Sciamana	Albert N. Anthony N Terry Reyes Joanne M.	Albert N. Anthony N.	Albert N. Anthony N	Tony C. Giuseppe S.
Sun 6:00pm	Young Adults	Kristine R. Arthur K.	Tony Hayek Arthur Kassis Jackie Kassis Adrienne H.	Tony Hayek Anthony K. Maria F. Paul P.	Tony H. Charlene Alexis H.	Tony H. Charlene Alexis H.	Arthur K. Jackie K.