



## 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
Fr Thomas Thanh CP	Sr Elena Daton CP
Deacon Christopher Roehrig	James Yeo
Sr Elenita Flores CP	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 Lent - YEAR C

13th March 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*

*Dear Friends in the Parish Family,*

Our Eastern States are still reeling from the floods that have devastated so many lives, homes, businesses, livelihoods, communities and properties. Those of us spared the terrible trauma can scarcely imagine the suffering so many are carrying. Our news from Ukraine continues to break our hearts - hospitals bombed, children under rubble, families broken apart, and young soldiers consoling the weeping with one hand, holding rifles with the other. All of them will suffer trauma for the rest of their lives .

Our own deep feelings are to be expected. As the Australian Jesuit writer, Fr Andrew Hamilton, wrote in the journal Eureka this week, beyond anger, powerlessness and the desire for the perpetrators to be punished, there is the possibility of a heart-felt sharing in the deep sorrow at the destruction all around us.

We know now that what affects one person, one community, one town, one state, one nation, in fact, affects us all. It is not happening to 'them' over 'there', but to each of us and all of us. And who we personally respond, communally respond, humanly respond or respond in Christ – this equally affects and empowers those whose suffering is truly visceral and real.

Our compassion empowers resilience in those tossing their whole lives into heaps of lost memories onto the streets of Lismore, or

those flowing Ukraine, who leave their sons and daughters behind to face Putin's tanks and bombs.

This capacity to share the sorrow is the inner meaning of the Beatitudes – Blessed are they who mourn. Thank God we have the capacity to be touched by sadness and to respond with compassion and hope. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after justice, who face persecution by standing up and saying "No! – not here! Not now! Not ever!" (Sr Joan Chittester wrote this in her recent column "From Where I stand" in the National Catholic Reporter).

It has been wonderful knowing so many in our parish family have been praying earnestly at home, at our St Brigid's Primary, at Casimir College, at our present Ukraine Peace Altar in Our Lady's Chapel. We feel the sorrow but we never lose hope.

Our thanks for the wonderfully generous response of so many to the Special Collection last weekend for the flood victims and for Ukraine. Over \$2,500 was collected, with half going to Vinnies Flood Appeal, and half to Caritas Ukraine Appeal.

*Fr. Tom.*



## **BEING TRANSFIGURED & TRANSFORMED**

Gen 15:5-12. 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Luke 9:28-36

St Augustine is one of the most famous saints of the Church. Early in his life he felt drawn to the person of Jesus Christ and to the Christian way of life. But for a long time, both lust and pride got in the way of him taking the plunge and getting baptized. Eventually, however, both he and his fifteen-year-old son, born out of marriage but named 'Adeodatus' meaning 'Gift of God', were baptized together in the Church of Milan. This took place on April 25, 387.

Augustine has recorded in his memoirs called the 'Confessions' two religious experiences which transformed his attitudes, person, and whole way of life. One has to do with a text from the bible, the other with music.

In the first incident, Augustine has thrown himself under a fig tree. He is depressed to the point of tears at the remembrance of his sins. He asks God how much longer can God put up with him. Then suddenly from a house nearby, he hears the voice of a child calling out over and over again, 'Tolle, lege! Take it, read it! Take it, read it!'

*Immediately Augustine stops crying, his whole face lights up, and he goes to the bible to take and read the first words he finds there. When he opens the book, his eyes fall on these words of St Paul to the Romans: 'Let us conduct ourselves properly, as people who live in the light of day - no orgies or drunkenness, no immorality or indecency, no fighting or jealousy. But take up the weapons of the Lord Jesus Christ, and stop paying attention to your sinful nature and satisfying its desires' (Rom 13:13). The message is overpowering. He can resist the Lord no longer.*

A little while later, his determination to live as a Christian is reinforced by a second experience. This time it's the singing of the Christians in the church in Milan. He recalls the deep impression the singing made on him and says to God in his memoirs: 'I wept at the beauty of your hymns and canticles, and was powerfully moved at the sweet sound of your people singing. The sounds flowed into my ears and truth streamed into my heart.' Through the grace of God coming to Augustine in those two experiences, he was changed, transformed - transfigured as a new person.

It's obvious from the gospels that people around Jesus expected him to change all kinds of situations. So they brought him their sick ones, their crippled, their mentally disturbed, their children, and many other concerns and worries. He healed some. He comforted and supported

others. But as a general rule, Jesus did not usher in an age of instant, total, and permanent change of situations. The grass did not grow any greener. The trees did not produce bigger fruits. The wheat in the fields did not yield bigger crops. The rain did not fall more abundantly. The sun did not shine any brighter. And not every sick person who came to him went home feeling better.

But some changes did occur with Jesus. There were changes in people themselves, including the changes that came over Jesus himself. There on the mountain, he begins to shine like the sun with the splendour and glory of God. In his new condition, he receives encouragement from those great spokespersons for God, Moses, and Elijah. In effect, they are telling him: 'Keep going. Continue your good work. Persevere with your mission. Even if it leads to the agony of the cross, it will end in glory, the glory you are now experiencing.'

Change comes over the friends of Jesus, Peter, James, and John as well, who have seen the change in Jesus and who are overcome, puzzled, and perplexed by it. The change that happens to them is deepened when they hear God speaking to them in the voice from the cloud: 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' What God is saying to them is this: 'Do what he tells you. Put into practice what he teaches you.'

From now on those friends of Jesus see him in a new light. They take him more seriously as a messenger of God and saviour. They also understand that a new world, a better world, must start with them, must start with their heeding that message of God to them: 'Listen to Jesus!'

'Listen to Jesus!' That's a message for you and me too. Is there, e.g., someone right now who is getting on our nerves? Is there someone with whom we are fighting? How does Jesus see them? What would Jesus do? What words of his apply? What do we hear him saying to us?

'Listen to Jesus!' Can we do that especially during our Holy Communion today, when he comes to us as our light and strength to change us for the better? Only if we change and become better than we are right now, can we hope to rise with him to a new, transformed, and glorious state. May his influence on us in our Holy Communion with him today, assist us to overcome all fear and indifference, all selfishness and laziness, and anything and everything else that may be stopping us from walking with him on his journey to Jerusalem and listening to him along the way! Will we let him transform and transfigure us?

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

## PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM

During the season of Lent, on Tuesdays a 9:00am Mass has been added in our Parish Mass times, to be followed by a Lenten reflection at Shrublands Hall.

Fr. Giltus will lead the reflection.

Morning tea is provided.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**



## Thoughts for Lent

*Fast from hurtful words and speak kind words  
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude  
Fast from anger and be filled with patience  
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope  
Fast from worries and have trust in God  
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity  
Fast from pressures and be prayerful  
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy  
Fast from grudges and be reconciled  
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.*

Pope Francis

## Casimir Catholic College - Marrickville

Unite and Grow in a  
Year 7 - 12 Co-education Environment



### ENROLLING NOW

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200 Livingstone Road, Marrickville  
9558 2888  
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## PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

St Brigid's values your generous contributions that enable us to continue our ministry, and supports the maintenance of our wonderful church

Please consider joining our Planned Giving program. The program enables you to receive a 30% tax deduction in relation to your contributions, and gives the Parish the benefit of some certainty as to cash-flows and the management of our expenses.

If this is of interest, please contact Len Di Perna in the Parish Office on 8577 5670.

## Parish Collection 12/3/2022

### First Collection \$1,220.00

First collection supports the Passionist community, all the priests, sisters 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 Arch Bishop, and support priests in remote areas across Australia and those who are in ill-health or who have retired.

### Second Collection \$1,775.00

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, gas, electricity, and cleaning and rubbish removal.

**Thank you for supporting St Brigid's Parish**

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - 2022

### Sacrament of Reconciliation Sessions

Sunday 13th March @ 9.00am - Third Session

Sunday 20th March @ 9.00am - Fourth Session

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 31st March @ 7.00pm

## St Brigid's Catholic Primary School

### OPEN DAY + School Tours



Monday 28 March

Tuesday 29 March

Thursday 31 March  
9am - 10am

Saturday 2 April  
10am - 2pm

stbmarrickville.catholic.edu.au

**Recently Deceased:** Maria Viera, Teresa Alves, John Schiano, Babs McDermott, Sylvia Silverthorne

**Death Anniversaries:** Raymond Chaina, Giuseppe Consalvi, David Roger James, Maria Nhan Thi Vu, Rose Borham, Lafamai Togia Lafo, Glen Trethowan, Irene De Sousa, Jose Carlos Caetano, Senitila Uhi, Gertrude Jennings

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

**Other Intentions:** Wendy Lamb



**The Catholic Weekly only \$2.00**

- Stand by Ukraine
- Work in Wokeness: Discrimination Bill blocked
- Mark Shea: Your big Lenten opportunity
- Second class Catholics: It's official in NSW
- Movie review: *Abraham Lincoln*

**Mass Texts: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**13/3/22**

**First Reading:** Gen 15:5-12. 17-18

**Response:** The Lord is my light and my help

**Second:** Romans: Phil 3:17 – 4:1

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel:** Lk 9:28-36

**Parish Calendar 2022**

**March**

- 6th Sun Rite of Election at St Mary's Cathedral
- 7th Mon Bereavement Meeting - 6:30pm
- 8th Tue 9:30 am Lenten Reflection at Shrublands Hall
- 15th Tue Liturgy Meeting (Easter Triduum) - 7pm
- 20th Sun Good Friday Procession Group Meeting 7pm
- 22nd Tue Senior's Group - 2pm
- 22nd Tue Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - 7pm

**April**

- 4th Mon Bereavement Meeting - 6:30pm
- 10th Sun Palm Sunday
- 14th Thur Holy Thursday
- 15th Fri Good Friday
- 17th Sun Easter Sunday
- 26th Tue Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - 7pm



**Liturgical Timetable**

- Mon - Wed - Fri:** Adoration and Benediction at 8.45am followed by **Mass at 9.00am.** Followed by Rosary
- Tues (during lent only)** **Mass at 6:45 and 9:00 am (followed by Lenten reflection at Shrublands hall)**
- 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: Sunday Let 2 and Lent 3 - Year C**

	Lectors/ Commentators		Communion Ministers		Acolytes / Altar Servers		Collector In-charge
	12/ 13 March	19/20 March	12/ 13 March	19/20 March	12/ 13 March	19/20 March	
Sat 5:00 pm	Kelelia A. Paul C.	Jim Yeo Gabrielle B.	Michael D Liz Buchel. Michael P. Carole P.	Michael D. Shelley H. Ofa Tupola William M.	Michael Dillon	Michael Dillon	Jim Yeo Michael P.
Sun 8:00 am	Peter J. Mary L.	Margaret T. John L.	Dennis M. Margaret T. Peter J. Thu Hoang	Dennis M.	Dennis Maher	Dennis Maher	Peter H. Maria M.
Sun 10:30 am	Rosetta N Anthony N. Terry R	Angie C. Albert S. Frank Cowell	Albert N. Anthony N. Angie C. Bernadette Y.	Albert N. Anthony N. Tony C. Giuseppe S.	Albert N. Anthony N	Albert N. Anthony N.	Tony C.  Giuseppe S.
Sun 6:00 pm	Arthur K. Adriene H.	Libby Debby Patricia Thom- as	Tony Hayek Michael W. Christine R. Jackie K.	Tony Hayek Adrienne H. John Skinner Arthur Kassis	Tony H. Amelia P Charlene E Alexis H.	Tony Hyek Amelia P Charlene E. Alexis H.	Arthur K. Jackie K.