



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

392 Marrickville Rd (PO Box 237), Marrickville NSW 2204

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

Administrator: Fr Erick Niyiragira CP (pp@stbrigid.org.au)

Sr Elena Daton CP (elena@stbrigid.org.au)

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Deacon Christopher Roehrig (christopher@stbrigid.org.au)

Jenny Solo (youthministry@stbrigid.org.au)

Jim Yeo (safeguardingofficer@stbrigid.org.au)

Ms Elena Di Perna (parishbookkeeper@stbrigid.org.au)

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

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

Sunday 32 Year A 8 November 2020

EXPECTING THE UNEXPECTED 32ND SUNDAY A

How have you prepared, or how would you prepare, for any or all of the following:

An exam?

A job interview?

A wedding?

The birth of a baby?

Raising a family?

Your death and final destiny?

'Stay awake,' says Jesus, 'because you do not know either the day or the hour' (Matthew 25:13)

A class of Year 12 Students was preparing to sit for their Victorian Certificate of Education final exams. The results would determine whether they would be accepted for university, and which university would take them. A bunch of the brightest students decided they would romp it in. So, they went out and partied every night before every exam. The rest of the class did not go to any parties at all and kept studying right up to the last minute. When the results were published, many in the last group did just as well as those who went out partying. Some of the brilliant ones, in fact, missed out getting into uni altogether. Their lamps, the lamps of their minds, went out at the critical times, just like with five of the ten bridesmaids in the story Jesus told us.

Of course, the point of my story is not exactly about the importance of exams, but the importance of being ready. Being ready, being prepared, when Jesus Christ, representing the God of surprises, offers us precious opportunities of one kind or another! So too the point of the story Jesus told, is not really about ancient wedding customs or rescuing silly people from their own mistakes, or even staying awake at night. His point is specifically about being prepared, being alert for the coming of Jesus Christ into our lives at any time, and about being ready to welcome him whenever he comes, even though we do not know in

advance either the day or the hour or the form of his arrival. Will we hear his voice when he speaks to us in the plight of a stranger close by, in the pain of a family member, or in the need of a colleague in the factory or the office, the classroom or the hospital ward?

A man phones the priest to say that his 45-year-old neighbour and friend has just dropped dead jogging. He leaves behind his adoring wife, two small children, and dozens of family friends. A fit athletic person never expects that a late afternoon run will be the very last thing he does in his life. One hopes that his lamp of faith was still burning inside him, that he wasn't putting off the word he needed to speak - a word of love to some of the people in his life, and a word of forgiveness to others. One hopes that he had made good and wise choices in his life, and that he took seriously the standards of Jesus for facing the judgment of God. One hopes that people would say and God would acknowledge, that he was a man of compassion, who helped his neighbours, who reached into his wallet to feed the hungry and clothe the destitute, and who went out of his way to visit sick people or prisoners.

A holy old monk was sweeping up the fallen leaves in the monastery garden when a visitor asked him: 'What would you do, Brother, if you knew you were to die in ten minutes?' The old monk replied: 'I'd keep on sweeping.' How wise and sensible!

No doubt we've all heard the slogan 'Carpe diem' - 'Seize the day!', in the sense of taking every chance to do good rather than hurt or harm anyone or anything in any way. (That, incidentally, includes the environment, God's precious gift of creation that day after day is being terribly wounded and degraded by human greed and stupidity). 'Seize the day, and the hour, and the moment' is surely what Jesus is saying, and you won't find the door to life slammed in your faces, the way it happened to those silly giggly bridesmaids, who turned up at the wedding breakfast quite unprepared.

The story Jesus told about having our lamps blazing with light reminds us that the words of dismissal at the end of Mass, 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord' or equivalent, are all about going out from Mass to make a better world, both by loving our God and loving our fellow human beings in all situations, be they easy or difficult, be they convenient or inconvenient.

Let's think and pray, then, about the message to us from Jesus today, about expecting the unexpected, with our lamps of faith, hope and love fully ablaze!

bgleesoncp@gmail.com

2021 Wedding Bookings

St Brigid's is now accepting **SATURDAY Wedding Bookings** for next year. Please send your enquiry via E-MAIL to: [parish @ stbrigid. org.au](mailto:parish@stbrigid.org.au).

Include couple's names, addresses, phone numbers, choice of date and time, and name of priest who has agreed to officiate at your wedding.

Please keep in mind that, in accordance with COVID 19 Regulations and **until 4 square metre distancing rule is changed, a MAXIMUM of 135 people is permitted at any service in St Brigid's Church .**

BOOKINGS for ALL Sunday Masses at St Brigid's are ESSENTIAL

Web Page:

<http://www.stbrigid.org.au>

Follow our Facebook page:

- **St Brigid's Marrickville**

OR phone the Parish Office on **8577 5670** between 9.30am - 4.00pm, Monday—Friday .

From The Archdiocese of Sydney Parish Notices: : 28/10/2020.

"Restrictions on church attendance have been eased further to allow for up to 300 attendees at Masses, as long as churches follow the four square metre rule.

It is important to acknowledge that in practice, only St Mary's Cathedral will be allowed up to 300 people because of

its dimensions."

*****STOP PRESS*****

From Friday 23 October 2020:

Under NSW Health Department regulations **AND as long as the 4 square metre social distancing regulation remains,**

MAXIMUM attendance at church services at St Brigid's is:

Funerals: 100 people

Masses: 135 people

Weddings: 135 people

Baptisms: 135 people

(ie 27 per child)

Contact details must be provided

Masks are required to be worn

WEEKEND MASS TIMES at ST BRIGID'S

Saturday	- 5:00pm (Vigil) (Reconciliation from 4.30pm) - 7:00pm (Vietnamese)
Sunday	- 8.00am
Sunday	- 10.30 am
Sunday	- 4.00pm (Vietnamese)
Sunday	- 6.00 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES at ST. BRIGID'S

MONDAY	- 9:00 am
TUESDAY	- 6.45 am
WEDNESDAY	- 9:00 am
THURSDAY	- 6.45am
FRIDAY	- 9:00 am

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place from 8.30am to 8.50am on

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

PARISH FINANCES and COVID-19

The effects of COVID-19 continue to mean reduced income for our parish from donations and for the period **April-August 2020** our income received of \$58,639 was less than half of the income for the same period last year (\$122,024). With many of our expenses remaining the same, including maintenance costs, this means **continued financial stress on the Parish's finances**.

Any financial support from parishioners is always gratefully received.

If you donate by direct deposit or credit card, please give as detailed a description as possible or send a copy of receipt to the Parish Office so the money may be attributed to the correct account.

PARISH COLLECTION: 01/10/2020

1st (Passionists): \$ 1,045.00
2nd (Parish): \$ \$ 1, 699.75
Cash/Envs: \$ \$ 1,334
Credit Cards: \$ \$ 1,143

"Tap and Go" Donation Machines"

For your convenience, there are two donation stands, one on either side of the pillars as you walk into the church.

One is marked for St Brigid's Parish and the other is marked for the Passionists.

Please check before you donate that you are donating to the correct entity.

At this stage the donation amount is set at \$15.00 per tap

Piety Store

The piety store is open every **2nd Sunday of the month**. Judy will also be available by appointment. If you wish to buy religious items, please contact the Parish office for appointment.

Now available: large statues of the Sacred Heart, Vinnies Christmas cards

National Aborigines and Islanders Day
Observance Committee week (NAIDOC)
8-15 November



**Always Was,
Always Will Be.**

St. Brigid's Marrickville acknowledges and pays respect to the traditional owners of this land on which it is built, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation.

The theme of NAIDOC week is '**Always Was, Always Will Be**'. This theme recognises that that First Nations people have occupied and cared for this continent for over 65,000 years. NAIDOC 2020 invites all Australians to embrace the true history of this country – a history which dates back thousands of generations. It's about seeing, hearing and learning the First Nations' 65,000+ year history of this country - which is Australian history. We want all Australians to celebrate that we have the oldest continuing cultures on the planet and to recognise that our sovereignty was never ceded.

St Brigid's Community prays together....

Prayer for Reconciliation

God of all creation,

As we journey together in the Great Southern Land, we prayer for healing, Forgiveness and unity. Creating a path of Good will, with justice and compassion.

Jesus, through the power of your love,
You have given us courage, wisdom
And strength to share our gifts and Talents in humanity.

In peace and understanding we
Reconcile with each other.

Creator Spirit, we come together in
Prayer and thanksgiving for the many
Blessings we have received.

Allow your Spirit to wash over us and
Give us strength to walk together as one.

*Copyright - Reconciliation Church 2014.
The reconciliation Church prayer was written by
a small group of Aboriginal Elders.*

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Recently deceased:

Lucy Tochila
Tony Meoli
Marjorie Bernadette Johnston
Mary Lea
Jose Freixo
Ivone Neto
Angelo Di Perna
Zlata Lokmer
Tina Boyce
Caterina Papaiani,
Salvatore Silvestro,
Maria Lurdes de Gois

For the Sick

Joe Sukkar,
Teresa Mazzeo
Firmino Moreira;
Winifreda Jauco;
Anne Lowe;
Kristin Roehrig;
Mary Lea;
Fr Joachim Rego CP;
Katy Carolan,
Giovanna Cipolla
Helen Eid,
Mary Harb,
Elizabeth Yashadhana,
Geoffrey Leask,
Maureen and Ken McRea
And all those infected with Corona-
Virus

Death Anniversaries:

Phero Le Van Cu
Ilda Quintal
Maria Toan Thi Nguyen
Giuseppe Tizzone
Alexander Peter
Bernadette Coelho
Bill Wenham
Giuseppe Nguyen Duc Trinh
Maria de Martin
Danuta Kupidura
Alma Kayrouz
Maria Rosa Cruz

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 and Jonathan 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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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 OR 9390 5810. You may 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.