



## 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*

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*We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people*

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B 24th October 2021

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

### **PRAYING IN PAIN:** *Mark 10: 46-57*

Now and then we come across people knocked for six by things that happen to them. Eg people on television in deep grief because a loved one been murdered, or been killed in a car accident, or their house with all their belongings has just been burnt to the ground. In the face of such disasters, they may sit on the ground with their head in their hands, rocking from side to side, or just staring ahead. In their pain, often they cannot express even a word about what they are feeling. So, when someone asks: "Is there anything I can do?", there's just no answer.

Their first step to easing the pain is to find a language to express it. So, we are not surprised to find in the Bible a powerful language to express the pain that comes from loss, and from fear. They are the prayers of lament there. They consist of cries from the heart, shouts of suffering, groans of anguish, and even screams for help—all aimed at God expressing their hope in God to make things better.

When the poor beggar Bartimaeus hears that Jesus is nearby, he shouts his desperate lament: "Son of David, Jesus Messiah, have pity on me. But some nearby resent him expressing his pain and shouting for help. They tell him just to "shut up."

But Bartimaeus has had enough of living in darkness. Jesus tells the bystanders to call Bartimaeus over.

"Courage" they say, "Get up; he is calling you." Softly Jesus asks him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man blurts out his plea. Right there, Jesus heals him. Saved by that faith, Bartimaeus uses his newly restored sight to follow Jesus—his newest and most enthusiastic disciple.

This story reminds us that in our frustration and anger over bad and painful things that happen to us or others, its quite alright and definitely advisable to give vent to our feelings, and even to yell or scream at God for help. God is big enough, great enough and good enough to absorb all our cries.

But if we've been brought up to think that the religious response to pain should be silence and passivity, we won't do that. But then we risk falling into a crumpled heap of depression and anxiety. Instead of honestly telling God our loving Father and Mother what we are feeling and thinking, our prayer will be a kind of polite game of 'make-believe.'

We will also deprive ourselves of God's help and healing in one form or another. For just as Bartimaeus touched the heart of Jesus and found comfort and healing, you and I will also find that our prayers will go straight to the heart of God.

May we too hear our Saviour:

"What do you want me to do for you?"

Brian Gleeson CP  
[bgleesoncp@gmail.com](mailto:bgleesoncp@gmail.com)

The Congregation of the Passion ( the Passionists) is celebrating its 300 years of Foundation, with its theme: Renewing our Mission with Gratitude, Prophecy and Hope.

### Explanation of the Jubilee Logo



### Explanation of the Jubilee Icon



*May the Passion of Jesus Christ  
be always in our hearts!*

### Please follow our Social Media Channels

- ◆ <https://www.facebook.com/MarrickvilleCatholic>
- ◆ <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgIwPtUbmmgGXYY7FHwoRPg>
- ◆ Instagram 
- ◆ Twitter 

### CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Deliveries of the newspaper have resumed this weekend.

**In this edition:** Ordinations on day churches re-open  
- Servant of God Eileen O'Connor  
- Former Anglican Bishop's conversion story

Pick up your copy after Mass: **just \$2.00**

### PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS 2020/2021

Available for collection from the table at the main doors of the church from this weekend.

### 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 Office on 9390 5810 or [sydneycatholic.org](http://sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support.*

**Recently deceased:** Fr Gerard Glynn CP (former Passionist Community Leader at Marrickville ; Antonio Ventura.

**Anniversaries :** Douglas Brown; Gwendoline Hockey; Therese Lahoud; Br Gabriel Preston CP; Marie Cashman; Dulcie Sykes; Ethel Hall; James Pearson; Maria Pham Thi Quy; Peter Q. Thang Hoang.

**Carrying Severe Illness:** Maria Guilfoyle; Renato Di Perna; Teresa Mazzeo; Ellen Forrester; Celine Steel ; George Turchi.

**Other Intentions: For Koswendas Family**

## Did you know?



### Anthony Kassis

"May sport be for you all a gym in which to train daily, to measure up to yourself and to others, a gym that gives you the opportunity to know new people and places and to help you feel an active part of society. May you be able to experience, also through sports, the closeness of God and the friendship of brothers and sisters." **Pope Francis 2014**

Anthony has run his own business for seven years. His successful gym is the result of the hard work that he and his business partner, best friend and brother, Alexander, have put into the business. Anthony's hobbies merge well with his business, he is a fitness fanatic and a two times NSW Amateur State Title Boxing Champion.

Anthony loves his job because he gets to help people. He explains, "personal training is a lot more than weight loss, it is constant encounters with people to help them to develop positive relationships in order to live a better life." Anthony often has good conversations about faith with his clients. His work allows him to remind clients that to be a good person you need to develop yourself physically, mentally, and spiritually. He reflects, "It's like bringing the Church to the Gym!"

## Young parishioner on a quest for good through sports and fitness.

Anthony comes from a big energetic Lebanese family who love to eat together!

He recalls many happy moments sharing meals together - especially BBQs. He also recalls many wonderful memories of when the St Brigid's priests came to his family home to share meals.

Anthony is very proud of his family history and culture. He reflects on the courage of his grandparents as they migrated to Australia from Lebanon with nothing. "They worked so very hard to make a better life for the family".

Anthony's history has inspired him to also work towards the goal of leaving a legacy, through his hard work, love of family and strong faith in God. When asked about his family, Anthony responded, "My family is the backbone of my life!"

When asked about the impact of St Brigid's Parish on his life Anthony explains, "The Parish has given me an opportunity to become the best version of myself.

I value the nuns, priests and parishioners in our community. Being a part of the Community is a constant reminder of how good God is". Anthony has a special place in his heart for Fr. Tom McDonough. "Throughout my life Fr. Tom has been a huge factor. I know that I can confide in him and trust him. He always gives me good advice and he has helped me through some difficult times". Anthony exclaims the fact "the whole community loves Fr. Tom!"

Anthony and his brother Alexander have been altar servers since they were in primary school. Anthony reflects, "Being an acolyte is something that I love to do because it allows me to give back to my Church. Jesus taught us through his own actions that service is a gift and so I am always honoured to serve with my brother". Anthony recalls, "We have many memorable occasions of service especially on Good Friday and Christmas".

When asked, "What is something that people may not know about you?" Anthony replied, "My secret addiction are those donuts with the pink icing called Homer Simpson donuts!". On that note we thank Anthony for his years of service at St. Brigid's Parish and for bringing the love of Jesus to his gym - what a great outreach!

This is a St. Brigid's Outreach initiative and if you have an interesting story that you would like to share, **please send the story for review and publishing to [parish@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:parish@stbrigid.org.au)**

### October IS World Mission Month

This week Catholic Mission will share the story of Churai\*, who having experienced much heartbreak in childhood, turned to the Mother and Babies Home run by the Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok when her partner cast she experienced rejection as an adult, abandoned by her partner and pregnant. Without this program, many vulnerable mothers like Churai will have nowhere to turn when they need love and care the most.

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/thailand](http://catholicmission.org.au/thailand) or by texting 'GIVE' to 0488 854 436. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.



To donate  
Catholic Mission  
QR Code

World Mission Sunday  
24 October



## COVID—19 UPDATE

### A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

As from Monday 25 October 2021 and in  
line with the NSW Government Roadmap:

For PUBLIC MASSES: churches and ceremonies of the Archdiocese of Sydney, including St Brigid's, are open to "mixed" congregations (fully vaccinated, partly vaccinated or not-yet vaccinated) *(in accordance with NSW Health guidelines)*.; The 4 sq metre rule is in place, and masks must be worn in the church. No congregational singing is permitted and hand sanitising is encouraged.

Bookings are required for weekend masses via our website or facebook page.

These requirements will remain in place until 1 December 2021

OR until government regulations change

For WEDDINGS and FUNERALS:

At weddings AND funerals, the permitted number of attendees is 100 if all those present are FULLY vaccinated. The 4 sq metre rule will be in place and masks must be worn. If some of those attending a wedding or funeral are NOT vaccinated, the permitted number is

5 at a wedding and 10 at a funeral.

Covid Safe check in is required

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday: 8.00am: Mass and Rosary (English)  
5.00pm: Vigil Mass (English)  
6.30pm: Vietnamese Mass

Sunday: 8.00am: Mass (English incl  
Livestream)  
10.30am: Mass (English)  
4.30pm: Vietnamese Mass  
6.00pm: Mass (English)  
Please book via EVENTBRITE  
on our website and Facebook page.  
Covid Safe check-in is required.

### BAPTISMS at St Brigid's

No further Bookings for 2021 will be possible as we work to meet the requests from parishioners who have been forced to postpone bookings from the past year.

### BAPTISMS—2022 Sundays at 12.30pm

Dates: January 16 or 23  
February 20 or 27  
March 20 or 27

Bookings for the above dates are now open:  
please e-mail [parish@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:parish@stbrigid.org.au)  
(incl address, phone, child's full name and chosen date and you will be sent a form to complete)

### WEDDINGS at St Brigid's No further wedding bookings are available for 2021

New wedding bookings for 2022 will be accepted after the Christmas– New Year break, from the second week in January 2021.

At that time, to book please e-mail  
[parish@stbrigid.org.au](mailto:parish@stbrigid.org.au)

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Bookings not required

(English)

Monday: 9.00am  
Tuesday: 6.45am ( Readings– Vietnamese)  
Wednesday: 9.00am  
Thursday 6.45am  
Friday: 9.00am



**FIRST ( Passionists) AND SECOND (Parish) COLLECTIONS**  
We have had a number of queries from parishioners asking how to continue to donate during lock down. For those of you able to contribute.

To donate

