



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

THIRT FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B 31st 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

THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN LIFE

Jesus has told you and me what is the most important thing in the world. It is to be a loving person. So we are meant to love our God with our whole self—mind, heart and will. The second part of being a loving person is to love and care for our neighbour. It is only right that we should do so—after all, God has loved us first. We are alive and here today because God has loved us into life. Jesus' whole life and death have been a manifestation and outpouring of God's tender love for every single one of us.

Reaching out to others with loving hearts involves our emotions. As well as feeling for them, we need to act for their well-being and happiness. The Gospels highlight Jesus' acts of kindness and generosity when they talk of the love in the hearts of Jesus. This approach to loving one's neighbour as another self is the opposite of selfishness and self-preoccupation. It overcomes a natural and inborn tendency to think of myself first, to put my needs before the needs of anyone else, and to tell myself I don't need to get involved. When I truly care for another person, I put the needs of that person first, and let their needs influence my personal choices, priorities and actions.

For us Christians, our concrete ways of loving others are intimately connected with our love for God. Love for God can be expressed only in a way that corresponds to our way of being in the world. It can function then, only within the network of our interpersonal relationships. Our love for God and neighbour is the same love. So, our love and care for others is not in competition with our love for God, but the concrete and practical ways in which we express our love for God. In practice, the two commandments to be a loving person are just one.

A striking example of this: When Fr Paul O'Reilly, a Jesuit priest, was working in the Amazon rainforest as a doctor, he had a young patient called Jeffrey. When Jeffrey was ten, his mother died. Three months later, his father abandoned him and his two sisters. The three children were taken in by an uncle who worked as a teacher in a poor village in the rainforest. One day, when Jeffrey was 12, he and his sisters did not have enough food, so Jeffrey climbed a mango tree for fruit, despite his uncle having told him not to. Jeffrey fell 30 feet from the tree and broke his back, leaving him paralysed from the chest down. He was carried on a stretcher to a little hospital in the nearest town, where he lay for a whole year. By that time he was in a bad way, dying and in constant pain. His uncle and sisters cared for him as best they could, but he got worse. So they decided to take him home—but this was another 20 days journey through the forest. So they appealed for help from their local church community.

God touched the hearts of their neighbours, a couple with children of their own, to care for the whole family. The mother cared for Jeffrey night and day for six months till he died. And when he died, she wept for him as one of her own children.

Of all the people he had ever known, Fr Paul says she was *the one who loved the Lord her God with all her heart all her mind, all her strength and all her might*. And more than anyone else, she was the one who truly loved her neighbour as herself.

What an amazing example of true love at work!

May the Passion of Jesus Christ and his everlasting love be always within our minds and hearts!

Brian Gleeson CP
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Sydney Alliance

St. Brigid's acts to support Afghanistan



On 13th October 2021, members from the St Brigid's parish and concerned community leaders met with Senator Tim Ayres to discuss the situation in Afghanistan. The aim of the meeting was to share our concerns about the situation in Afghanistan, and offer whatever support we can to promote the causes of assisting refugees from Afghanistan to resettle into Australia.

The meeting outlined that Australia has a history of assisting political refugees, example after the war in Syria and the Tiananmen Square Massacre. The meeting recommended that Australia follow the lead of England and Canada and accept 20,000 refugees from Afghanistan.

The four asks of our campaign are:

Facilitate flights into Kabul We know that establishing safe flights is an important bed-rock for our other asks of government, we also know this takes a significant amount of resources and we know this is a challenge.

Welcome refugees from Afghanistan – Declare an intake of an additional 20,000 refugees focused on those most at risk from the Taliban (just as the UK and Canada have announced and like Australia did in 2015 for 12,000 refugees from Syria). And provide additional resources to Home Affairs immigration and settlement services, to ensure the continued processing of claims from other refugee communities.

Protect refugees already in Australia - Grant permanent protection to all people from Afghanistan in Australia on temporary protection visas or currently awaiting application outcomes.

Reunite refugee families - Make immediate arrangements to bring the families of refugees from Afghanistan to Australia.

You can read more on asylum seekers in Australia at: asylumseekerscentre.org.au

Piety Store

Looking for a Religious item as a gift?

Large variety of statues, rosary beads and Baptism candles.

Also Columban calendars for 2022 are available \$10 each.

St. Brigid's Seniors Group



At last, free from lockdown!!
St Brigid's Seniors Lunch
at PRSL on 23/10/2021

Fabulous cake
by Marie Thompson



ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS DAY

ALL SAINTS: Monday 1 November: Mass at 9.00am (English) and 6.00pm (Vietnamese)
7:00pm (English)

ALL SOULS : Tuesday 2 November: Mass at 6.45am(English) , 6.00pm (Vietnamese);
7.00pm (English)

Liturgical Timetable

Mon—Wed—Fri: Benediction at 8.45am followed by **Mass at 9.00am.**

Tues and Thurs: Mass at 6.45am

Saturday: Mass at 8:00am followed by Holy Rosary

Public Hols: Mass 9.00am only

Saturday: Reconciliation 4-30pm Mass:5 pm; & 7.00 pm (Vietnamese)

Sunday: Mass at 8.00am ; 10.30am (bilingual); 4.00pm (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 First Friday of each month .

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at 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

October IS World Mission Month



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

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 (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

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. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide

Recently deceased: Fr Gerard Glynn CP (former Passionist Community Leader at Marrickville ; Nayara Faith Penitani; Jacklime Touma; Alberto Serra.

Anniversaries : Marie Monahan; Vincent Dinh Tu Vu; Allan Hanscombe; Victoriano Sapong; Sr Mary Lussick RSM; Wilson Ojeda; JohnMcInerney; Felicisima Caringal; John Francis Entriken; Garnet Braybrook; Maureen Pearce.

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



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

