



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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FaceBook: **St Brigid's Marrickville**

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

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We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B 7th November 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

GIVING WITHOUT GETTING

1 Kings 17:10-16; Hebrews 9: 24-28; Mark 12: 38-44

Paul, an experienced Jesuit priest, remembers that in the year he was ordained, he was assigned to a parish in a big city. He was keen and enthusiastic, so he thinks his superiors put him in a place where he could do the least damage. On arrival, he unpacked and went to the laundry to wash some clothes. On the way, one of the older men from the community said "You don't have to do your washing here—we have Mrs Jones for all that." Later that day, Paul met Mrs Jones. She was 82, bent over with arthritis and barely able to walk. There was no way that Paul was going to allow her to wash his clothes, so he continued to wash them himself.

A while later, his superior took Paul aside and insisted that he give his clothes to Mrs Jones to wash. Paul objected—this was priestly privilege and a terrible imposition on an old, sick woman. His Superior grew more and more angry and finally demanded: "Just give your clothes to Mrs Jones to wash, OK? Just do it."

So Paul brought his dirty clothes to Mrs Jones, who seemed delighted. So he asked her how she felt about having to wash all the clothes of the community. She answered: "*I love it. It's my way of serving Jesus.*"

Paul left her presence feeling very humble. Thinking of the words today in our gospel, Mrs Jones was clearly one of those special quiet achievers of this world, a real unsung treasure, with so much love to give, that despite all obstacles, she would keep giving her all, until she could give no more.

In keeping with the gospel message, let us acknowledge today the work and ministry of

all those "quiet achievers" who faithfully serve the needs of our parishes and neighbourhoods, mostly out of sight, and never look for even one word of appreciation. The people, mostly elderly, who pray the rosary every day! The greeters who welcome us each Sunday! Those who clean the church. Those who provide and arrange the flowers around the altar, wash and iron the altar cloths. The ushers and collectors, the workers in the Parish Office, the Catechists, the musicians and singers.....and on and on the list goes!

Our parishes could neither survive or thrive without them.

In all the bustle of the Temple, with people constantly moving around, who could have noticed the widow quietly putting into the collection for the House of God? Putting in all the money she had, and then quietly leaving without keeping anything for herself? Who could have noticed her? Jesus did—noticed her, appreciated, admired and praised her.

He also notices, appreciates, admires and recognizes every good deed done by every good person as done to himself. He knows that what you do, is not for show or recognition, but only to love, help and serve others.

So, in the rest of our prayer today, let us give praise and thanks to God for all the good deeds done by so many to so many others, and let us praise and thank God for filling your hearts and theirs, with so much kindness, generosity, and fidelity!

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

*Brian Gleeson CP
bgleesoncp@gmail.com*

Newly Painted CALVARY SHRINE



THANK YOU!

To our **Finance and Maintenance Committee members** for their oversighting of the recent work in our church grounds during the lockdown. Our shrine now looks beautiful and light and the carpark is much safer owing to freshly-painted lines at the crossing and between parking spaces.

Special "Thank You" to our parishioner, **Michael Daher**, for his continuing generosity.



Newly Painted Carpark Lines



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.

Did you know?

Parishioner Rita Machaalani



Parishioner receives prestigious Cardinal Freeman Award for 25 years of Catechist Service.

*“The Holy Spirit is present whenever the name of Christ is proclaimed. The Spirit will give you the light and strength you need!”
Pope Francis’ address to Catechists 2015.*

Rita was born in Australia of Lebanese descent into the Maronite Catholic faith. She attended primary school at St. Maroun's College (at Redfern in those days) and continued high School at Casimir, Marrickville.

Rita is a Medical Scientist and is currently working at the University of Sydney undertaking research into the Brain of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. She also works at the Children's Hospital at Westmead as a laboratory Manager. Rita’s role as a scientist has brought her closer to an appreciation of the great mystery of God and how beautifully God has ordered the functions of the brain.

Rita has been provided with great opportunities to travel to share her scientific endeavours, whilst also enjoying sightseeing and experiencing other cultures during her travels. (The attached photo is of Rita’s trip to Scotland a few years ago).

Incredibly, among all her commitments as a medical scientist, Rita still finds the time to avail herself as a catechist at our local Marrickville Schools. Rita shares, “one of the most rewarding things I’ve done in my life is being a Catechist and getting to meet many amazing young children”. The children have challenged Rita to go deeper into her faith so that she can answer many wonderful and deep questions, which for such young children, never ceases to amaze her! Rita reflects, “It is extra special knowing that many are not baptized Catholics, but their parents choose for them to join the class. I always pray for all the children and their families and give thanks to God that I have been given the chance to be one of the instruments via which they can come to know Jesus”.

Rita always starts her lessons by singing the Our Father and the Hail Mary. The children refer to Rita as ‘the teacher that "sings" the prayer!’

St. Brigid’s is important to Rita, “Being able to give back and share the many blessings I have received over the years is important to me. I appreciate the diversity and breadth of our religious and parishioners”.

As a catechist I have “the ability to share the love & joy of Jesus with others”. Rita loves meeting new people and making meaningful connections. She appreciates being able to be of assistance to others and to be able to use her talents for the glory of God.

We are so proud of Rita for her achievements in her career and her volunteer work. We would like to congratulate and thank Rita for all that she does to promote social outreach at St. Brigid’s Parish.

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

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 .

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 (weekday and weekend) 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 our 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 is in place and masks must be worn. **If some of those attending a wedding or funeral are NOT vaccinated**, the permitted number of guests is 5 at a wedding and 10 at a funeral.

Covid Safe check in is required

ST BRIGID'S 2022: BOOKINGS

BAPTISMS

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 2022

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 details of couple (names, addresses and phone) together with a copy of the e-mail your priest has given you agreeing to perform you ceremony to:

parish@stbrigid.org.au

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 support.

Recently deceased: Ilde Reis.

Anniversaries : Remedios Carluen; Laurence Belle; Owen Wall; Giuseppe Anastase; Ohero Le Van Cu; Ilda Quintal; Maria Toan Thi Nguyen; Giuseppe Tizzone; Alexander Peter; Bernadette Coelho; Bill Wenham; Giuse Nguyen Duc Trinh; Maria de Martin; Danuta Kupidura; Alma Kayrouz

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

