



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

Tel: 02 8577 5670 Fax: 02 8577 5679

Email: parish@stbrigid.org.au Web: www.stbrigid.org.au

FaceBook: St Brigid's Marrickville

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

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

Elena Di Perna (parishadmin@stbrigid.org.au)

Fr Dominic Samamba CP (dominic@stbrigid.org.au)

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

Sr Elenita Flores CP (elenita@stbrigid.org.au)

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

James Yeo (parishsafeguarding@stbrigid.org.au)

Jenny Solo (youthministry@stbrigid.org.au)

Pongia Fenukitau (pongia@passionists.com)

We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people

TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—YEAR B 10th 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

RICHES GETTING IN THE ROAD.

A questionnaire distributed to a high school class once asked: "What would you like to be?" Two thirds answered: 'A celebrity!' Not an answer Jesus would have given.

According to Mark, in today's gospel, a young man came running up to Jesus and asked what he must do to make the most of his time on earth. What he is wanting is a greater closeness to God and a greater sense of fulfilment. He has already been leading a good life—hasn't killed, cheated or robbed anyone. Hasn't fooled around with another man's wife; and always respected his parents; But right now, this doesn't seem enough. There must be more that he can do.

Jesus takes a shine to this young man for his honesty, sincerity, and goodwill. But the man is very rich, and Jesus wants to free him from his addictions to possessions and to help him share with others. He gives the man a massive challenge: 'There is one thing you lack. . Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven.; *then come, follow me.*'

If Jesus said that to us, in the 21st century, what would we think? Give up everything we treasure? My family? My friends? My pets? My home? My garden? My new litchen? My new car? My pool? My ipod? My pension? My superannuation? My holidays? My concerts? My Books? My DVDs? My fancy meals in restaurants? My sport? My health insurance? And, for what? To keep walking with Jesus along those dusty roads of Palestine? Not being sure of a roof over my head at night. Never being sure of where my next meal might be. Being exposed to the jeers and sneers of the enemies of Jesus.

If then, like that rich young man we did meet

Jesus on his journey and he was to look steadily at any one of us and say: "Go and sell everything you own and give the money to the poor....then come follow me, 'it would be very understandable that our jaws would drop, and we too, would walk away sad because we would think Jesus was asking too much of us. The cost is too great. Its beyond me.

I can't do it!

Jesus knows that what he has asked is beyond the majority of human beings. But "for God, all things are possible." He is speaking of the special grace of God, and of the power the power of that grace when given to particular individuals throughout history to leave everything to follow and imitate Jesus, such as St Francis of Assisi. At the age of 25, Francis renounced his inheritance, stripped himself of his fine clothes and possessions, and consecrated himself totally to God, and dedicated himself to living the teachings of Jesus. Amazingly, Francis found more joy in living than in the entire first 25 years of his life.

Where does the gospel story leave you and me? For most of us, packing up the bare necessities and hitting the road is not possible. But our gospel can remind us that we can let our lives get too cluttered and too complicated by too *much stuff*. Possessions are not bad in themselves, but they can be a hindrance if they start to possess us and block us from what matters most. Surely our freedom to be loving persons to family, friends and those in need, and our relationship with Jesus, are what matters most. Jesus was calling that young man into his company. *He keeps calling us too—to spend time with him and to share our lives with him.*

Let's do that.

Rev Dr Brian Gleeson CP

bgleesoncp@gmail.com

**LEADING TO THE FEAST
OF ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS,
ON SUNDAY, 17 OCTOBER
(Parish Celebration)**

**Weekly Schedules of sharing on the lives
of a Passionist Saints.**

**It will be posted on our Parish Facebook
Page on Monday Morning.**

**THE PASSIONIST SAINTS WALKING IN
THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL OF THE
CROSS**

Introductory: Fr. Joachim Rego to watch

Week one: St. Gemma Galgani to watch

Week two: Bled. Isidore De Loor to watch

Week three: St Dominic Barberi to watch

**Week four: St Gabrielle of Our Lady of
Sorrows to watch**

Week five: St Paul of the Cross



ST. BRIGID'S MEN'S CLUB

The St Brigid's men's club has continued to meet via zoom every month throughout the lockdown. Meeting as usual on the first Friday of each month, zoom has allowed us to see each other 'virtually' during these difficult times.

We can't wait to meet in person again! Please contact the parish if you would like to be added to our email distribution list.

**PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS
2020/2021**

As the Parish remains in lockdown tax deductible receipts may be obtained if needed by e-mailing your details to parishadmin@stbrigid.org.au

October IS World Mission Month

Please support us

For we CANNOT KEEP FROM SPEAKING about what we have SEEN & HEARD
ACTS 4:20

Thank you so much for your generous support of Church-run mission programs like the Mother and Babies Home in Thailand through last week's Catholic Mission Appeal.

Your gift helps to continue the work of Sister Chalaad and the Good Shepherd Sisters as they support vulnerable mothers and their babies, as well as many other mission programs around the world.

To learn more about the impact of your support, visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work, where you can also sign-up for our regular newsletter.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/thailand



Recently deceased:

Anniversaries : Fr Raffaele Tresca CP; Francis Kim Teck Ng; Len Carney; Dominic Tuy Xuan Pham; Maria Torres; Edwin D'Souza; Gino Sama; Mary Veronica Taylor; Maria Travia; Daphne Grange; Demetrio Llego; Hannah El-Lakkis.

Carrying Severe Illness: Maria Guilfoyle; Renato Di Perna; Teresa Mazzeo; Ellen Forrester; Celine Steel ; Nayara Faith Penitani; Sebastian George Turchi.

Did you know?



Parishioner Robert Gascoigne



Proud grandfather with young Milly

Emeritus Professor Robert Gascoigne calls St Brigid's Parish his spiritual home.

The best way to fulfill one's obligations of justice and love is to contribute to the common good. Gaudium et Spes ("The Church in the Modern World"), Vatican II, 1965 #30

Robert is of Anglo-Celtic Australian background, including an Irish convict great-great-grandfather who was transported to NSW in 1837 and a young Englishman and his wife who were free settlers in 1848. He was brought up in a Dominican parish (Holy Name, Wahroonga) and was an altar boy from the age of 8; Robert reflects, "it was a good opportunity to participate in the liturgy, first in Latin and then in English!" Roberts was educated by the Sisters of Mercy and the Christian Brothers.

"From my student days at the University of Sydney, I was hoping to become an academic, although as a layman I did not expect to become a theologian. I first studied history, then philosophy (both with a strong orientation to religious matters) and then the opportunity to become a theologian arose."

Throughout his teaching and research career Robert participated in the development of Australian Catholic University from its foundation in 1991. He also benefited from overseas study in England and Germany. Robert and his wife Yvonne have been blessed with three children and nine grandchildren.

"Since my retirement from ACU, I have been glad to spend time with my grandchildren (as in the photo with our granddaughter Milly).

"The Passionist Congregation gives St Brigid's a special character, including the Passionist sisters who contribute so much to the parish. I like the buildings, grounds, and ornamentation in the Spanish mission style very much. I think of both the Irish Australians who built the church and the Catholics of many ethnic backgrounds who now give life to the Parish. The multicultural character of the parish is a very attractive and engaging aspect of its life. At St Brigid's I feel connected to a global church: through the ministry of Passionists from different continents, through hearing the prayers and readings in different languages at some liturgies, and listening to our wonderful choirs, which include such a special Polynesian character. It's also a privilege to participate in the ministry of lector from time to time."

My key interest as a theologian is in the relationship between Christian faith and social and political questions of freedom, justice and community. I participate in networks in moral theology, especially in this area. In the photo I am standing with the city of Sarajevo, Bosnia, in the background, when I participated in a conference of 'Catholic Theological Ethics in the World Church' in 2018; the organizers chose the city of Sarajevo as the venue since it is an ecumenical and interfaith point of engagement (Catholic, Orthodox and Muslim) and since it suffered so much during the break-up of Yugoslavia in the 1990s. During the conference we were addressed by a group of young people, 'Youth for Peace', who are seeking to build peaceful relationships between the different communities.

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

COVID—19 UPDATE

A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

As from Monday 11 October 2021 and in line with the NSW Government 'Roadmap':

Our churches are still CLOSED and there will be no public masses until the 80% vaccination threshold is reached.

At weddings and funerals, the permitted number of attendees will be 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.

WHEN 80% ARE FULLY VACCINATED

Estimated date: 25 October 2021

we will open our churches and ceremonies to "mixed" congregations (fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated and as-yet unvaccinated); the 4 sq metre rule will apply, and masks must be worn indoors. We continue to urge everyone to be vaccinated so as to reduce the risk of illness or even death.

As prior to lockdown, we will do all that is reasonably possible to keep safe everyone that comes to church: **good ventilation, social distancing, hand sanitising, no congregational singing etc** **These requirements are expected to remain in place until the end of November 2021** unless government regulations change further.

SO.....

Together with Rev Anthony Fisher, Archbishop of Sydney, St Mary's Cathedral, and all other churches in the Archdiocese of Sydney, we at St Brigid's look forward to welcoming you all back to church from

Monday 25 October 2021

(further information next week)

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 planning their Baptisms during the past year but were forced to postpone their bookings by COVID 19.

BAPTISMS—2022 Sundays at 12.30pm

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

Bookings for the above dates will open from Monday 11 October 2021: if you wish to make a booking, please e-mail **parish@stbrigid.org.au.** (please include your postal address and contact phone number.)

WEDDINGS at St Brigid's

No further wedding bookings for 2021
will be possible

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**

FUNERALS at St Brigid's

Funeral bookings, are currently being accepted, subject to the regulations opposite .

Please e-mail:

parish @stbrigid.org.au



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

Or simply scan

