



ST BRIGID'S, MARRICKVILLE

*In the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, Australia
Est 1886. Under the Pastoral Care of the Passionists since 1887.*

*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.*



OUR COMMITMENT TO SAFEGUARDING

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 at safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or 9390 5810.

You may also 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.

25 January 2026 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

MASS TIMES

MONDAY - FRIDAY: Mass at 6:45am followed by Exposition and Rosary, then Adoration and Benediction at 8.45am, followed by **Mass at 9am** and Rosary.

SATURDAY: Mass at 8am followed by Holy Rosary.

Sacrament of Reconciliation at 4.15pm.

Mass at 5pm (Livestreamed) and 6.30pm (Vietnamese).

SUNDAY: Mass at 8am & 10.30am (bilingual), 4pm (Vietnamese), 6pm.

CONTACT US

392 Marrickville Rd
MARRICKVILLE NSW 2204

PO BOX 237
MARRICKVILLE NSW 1475

PH: 8577 5670

EM: parish@stbrigid.org.au

WEB: stbrigid.org.au

EMERGENCY: 0401 772 139



DONATIONS & PAYMENTS

**GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED
VIA OUR WEBSITE:**

stbrigid.org.au/donations/

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

In today's Gospel, we hear the very first words Jesus speaks as he begins his public ministry: **"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."**

Jesus is not threatening people. He is not scolding them. He is making an announcement. He is saying: something new is happening. God is doing something now. The kingdom of heaven is not far away.

To repent does not simply mean to feel guilty or ashamed. But rather, it means to turn around. It means to change direction because the situation has changed. When Jesus says the kingdom is near, he is telling us that life can no longer stay the same. God is moving toward us, and that calls for a response.

And Jesus immediately shows us what that response looks like. As he walks by the Sea of Galilee, he sees Simon and Andrew at work, casting their nets. He says to them, **"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."**

Here, repentance becomes very practical. It is not just about what we think or feel. It is about what we do next. To repent is to follow Jesus. It is to trust him enough to take a step in his direction. Jesus does not give these fishermen a long explanation. He does not tell them exactly where they are going. He simply invites them to walk with him. And somehow, that is enough. They leave nets and follow him.

Think about their nets. These nets are very important for them. They represent their work, their skills, their security. Yet, Jesus does not reject these things. He takes them and gives them a new purpose. He does not say, "Your past no longer matters." He says, "Your life can be used in a new way." This means that God does not discard or deny who we are. He reshapes it.

When Jesus says, "I will make you fishers of men," he is also reminding us that following him is never just about ourselves. God's kingdom always reaches outward. When we follow Jesus, we are drawn into his care for others—into bringing hope, healing, and belonging to the world around us.

These two short sentences in today's Gospel tell us what the Christian life is really about. Repentance is not about becoming perfect. Following Jesus is not about being brave or impressive. It is about responding to what God is already doing. God comes first. Jesus comes first. We simply answer his call. And that call is still heard today.

The kingdom of heaven is still near—in our families, our communities, our workplaces, our struggles, and our hopes. Jesus still walks into ordinary lives and

PARISH TEAM

Fr Giltus Mathias CP,
- *Parish Priest*
Fr Joachim Rego CP,
Assistant Priest
Fr Doan Sy Ho CP,
Assistant Priest
Fr James Cong CP,
Assistant Priest
Sr Elenita Flores CP,
Sacramental Process
Sr Rosana Estoque CP,
Liturgy Coordinator
Elena Di Perna,
Bookkeeper
Paola Yevenes,
Parish Secretary
Jenny Ryan-Cook,
Youth Ministry
Pongia Fenukitau,
Groundskeeper
Jim Yeo,
Safeguarding Officer

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals are by

appointment only.
For more information,
please contact the Parish
Office or email us at
parish@stbrigid.org.au

Ministry of Care & Support to the Aged and Infirm:

Communion is taken to sick residents in Nursing Homes and in their homes on a weekly basis, either by Ministers of Care or family members. Please contact the Parish Office to organise Communion to be taken to those who are home-bound.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is offered after 6.45am and 9am Mass on the first Friday of each month.

OUR SCHOOLS

St Brigid's Primary School
9558 6926

Casimir High School
9558 2888

says, **"Follow me."** The question is not whether he is calling. The question is whether we are willing to loosen our grip on our nets, trust him, and take the next step with him. Amen.

CATECHIST SUNDAY

On the occasion of the Catechist Sunday, we as a parish family give thanks to God for all those who serve as catechists, sharing the faith with generosity, patience, and love. Today is an opportunity for us to pause, reflect, and express our gratitude for a ministry that is essential to the life and mission of our parish.

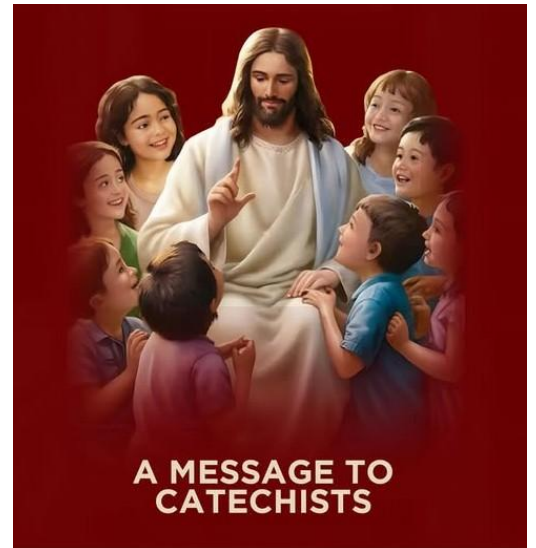
Our catechists do more than teach religious knowledge. Through Scripture, prayer, and personal witness, they help children, young people, and adults discover that faith is not simply something to be learned, but a way of

life shaped by God's ongoing presence among us. Pope Francis reminds us of this when he says, *"Who are catechists? They are people who keep the memory of God alive; they keep it alive in themselves and they are able to revive it in others."* Catechists do this not only through words and lessons, but through lives formed by faith, prayer, and service. By remembering God's faithfulness in their own lives, they help others recognise God at work in theirs.

In a special way, we thank **Sr. Elenita, Sue King, Rita Machaalani, Rita Barbalace, Rebecca Bachaalani, Laudie Nakhl, Samia Romanous, Loris Youssef, Frank Cowell, Buddy Maroun, Lina Massi** and our catechists in our **Little Church: Buddy, Michelle, Jenny Nicole and Myra**, who have faithfully served as the catechists of our parish. Through their dedication, kindness, and commitment, many have been guided in their understanding of the Gospel and encouraged to grow in their relationship with Christ. Their service is a gift not only to those they teach, but to the whole St Brigid's community.

Catechist Sunday also reminds us that the work of handing on the faith does not belong to catechists alone. It is the responsibility of the entire parish—priests, parents, families, and all the faithful—to support, encourage, and pray for those who teach the faith in our name.

As we celebrate this Catechist Sunday, let us pray that the Holy Spirit continues to guide and strengthen our catechists. May their ministry bear lasting fruit, and may **St Brigid's Parish** remain a place where faith is joyfully shared, deeply lived, and faithfully handed on to future generations.



PARISH CHOIR

St. Brigid's Parish is seeking people interested in sharing their talents and skills in the music ministry. For more information, please get in touch with the Parish Office, or approach one of the Parish Team.



SACRED CHORAL MUSIC CONCERT

Parishioners who would like to attend this event are invited to register using a 15% discount code: **StBrigidParish26**. Please scan the QR code on the noticeboard or click on the following link to book: <https://www.trybooking.com/1519131>

SENIORS GROUP

The Seniors Group normally meets every third Sunday of the month. Our next meeting, however, is at 2pm on Sunday 22 February (not 15-02-26 as previously published) in Shrublands Hall.

ST BRIGID'S LITTLE CHURCH



Little Church is the Children's Liturgy of the Word, when the Gospel is explained to the children and there are activities that allow them to engage a better understanding of the message of the Gospel.

Please contact the parish office or see Sr Elenita if you can help for 30 minutes on a Sunday.

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROCESS

Parents, if you feel you are ready to support your child in their sacramental process, you are invited to apply for them to receive their first Sacrament of Reconciliation (from Year 3 onwards), their first Sacrament of Holy Communion (from Year 4 onwards) and/or their Sacrament of Confirmation (from Year 6 onwards).

The Parents' Information Evening for the first sacrament of Reconciliation will be at 7pm on Tuesday 17 February in Shrublands Hall. The parish Adult Faith Formation team will lead the reflections for parents at all sessions.

For more information, please email Sr Elenita at elenita@stbrigid.org.au.

HELP US BUILD A LEGACY

As many of you know, the church floor needs repair. The current tiles were installed in the 1950s and are now worn and a potentially safety hazard. Replacing the floor tiles will require a period of works between **May and July 2026**, during which the *church building* will be closed, but parish life will continue. Weekday and weekend Masses will be celebrated in an alternative space. In addition,

urgent repairs are required to the roof of **Shrublands Hall**.

Our total fundraising target is \$650,000.

You can access the dedicated fundraising website at <https://app.galabid.com/stbrigidslegacy/items> or by scanning the QR code below. **All donations are 30% tax deductible.** If you prefer to donate by cash or cheque, donation envelopes are available at the church doors. For alternative arrangements, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you in advance for your generosity, prayers, and support.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those Recently Deceased: Carlito Sanmocte, Retnabai Mathias, Louta Mafi, Joseph Bugeja.

Anniversary of Death for: Giuseppe Otera, John Kerpan, Philip Christy, Joachim Hoang Van Bau, Joseph Hoang Quoc Thai, Teddy Lakiss, Rosa D'Arrigo, Antonietta Consalvi, Noeline Therese Killalea, Irene Thompson, Antonio De Sousa, Angelo Russo, Mary Ann Josephine Smith, Francis Said, Peter Jacobus Buchel, Winston Yeo, John Choon Seng Ng, Francis Xavier Nguyen Van Cau, Anna Truong Thi Miet, Phero Nguyen Van Thuyet, Chantelle Delboe, Wenefrida Jauco, Ian Crayford, Levon Tholian, Ida Jauco,

Those Carrying Severe Illness: James Misi, Michael Chrissimos, Peter Martin, Belinda Camacho, Bev Harrington, Lina Massi, Margaret Barret, Rosie Pazman, Tim Jude Thomas, Catherine Harpur, Helen Eid, Damien Luck, Amalene & Gerard George, Elizabeth Pizzuto, John Love, Eileen McClement, Mary Angela Thomas, Lidia Obeid, George Clavigo, Huyen Nguyen, Georgette Khoury, Penelope Lincoln, Leonardo, Sofi, Maria Caccamo, Paul Murphy, Damia Roumie, Michael Natoloczny, Laurice Sassine, Tina Schino, Rudi Presern, Antonios Gebrael, Fr Christopher Mithen CP, Catherine Vella, Angela Augerinos, Colin Constantinou, Lilyan McAusland, George Baraket, Richard Hudson, Agnes Sonju Wong.

Other intentions: Jose Ferreira, Hernan Restrepo, Anna Ivec, Joseph Bianchini, Wendy Lamb, Josephine Farah, Joseph Farah, Jose Ferreira, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, Caceres family, Gustavo Bardana, Georgette Daher.

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Is 8:23 – 9:3

In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

Response: Ps 26:1, 4, 13-14

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 4:12-23

He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

PARISH CALENDAR FOR JAN - FEB 2026

Mon 26	Australia Day <i>As this is a Public Holiday, the regular 6.45am Mass will not be celebrated, and the Parish Office will be closed on this day</i>	
Tue 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sts Timothy & Titus • St Angela Meric • International Day in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust 	
	7pm	PPC Meeting in PC room
Wed 28	St Thomas Aquinas	
	7pm	RCIA in PC room
Fri 30	7pm	Men's Club
Sat 31	St John Bosco	
Sun 1 Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St Brigid of Kildare • World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life • Catechist Sunday 	
Mon 2	Presentation of the Lord	
Tue 3	7pm	Liturgy Committee meet in PC
Wed 4	7pm	SBCFD Practice with Fr Doan in Annexe
Thu 5	St Agatha	
Fri 6	Anointing of the Sick after the 6.45am and 9am Masses	
Mon 9	7pm	Adult Faith Formn. meet in PC

WEEKDAY MASSES	Time	Lay Minister	Lector
Monday	6.45am	Vinh N	Jim Y
	9am	Mary T	Liz
Tuesday	6.45am	Albert N	Viet
	9am	Mary T	Viet
Wednesday	6.45am	Albert N	Paul C
	9am	Liz	Buddy
Thursday	6.45am	Paul C	Michael P
	9am	Thom Thao	Joanna
Friday	6.45am	Vinh N	Patricia
	9am	Tony C	Leila W
Saturday	8am	Jim	Judy

WEEKEND MASSES	Commentators (C) & Lectors (L1 & L2)			Communion Ministers		Acolytes / Altar Servers	Collector In-charge
		24 / 25 Jan	31 Jan / 1 Feb	24 / 25 Jan	31 Jan / 1 Feb	This weekend	
Saturday 5pm (Vigil)	C L1 L2	Michael H Leila W Chihn Q	Paul C Aloysia S Michael P	Vinh N Thu H Carole P Kelelia F	Vinh N Leila W Michael H Elizabeth B	Vinh N Belatchew	Jim Y. Michael P.
Sunday 8am	C L1 L2	Mary L Marco J Joseph F	John S Libby D Stephen O	Joanna V Stephen O Margaret K	Dennis M Joseph F Joanna V	Dennis M. Luca G Antonella G Aidan S	Peter H. Maria M.
Sunday 10:30am	C L1 L2	Joanne M Robert G Italian	Mely S Peter J Italian	Anthony N John M Tony C Diana P	Anthony N Angie C Albert N Bernadette Y	Albert N Anthony N Josh K	Tony C Julian P
Sunday 6pm	C L1 L2	Kevin B Charlie E Lenore D	Laura P Kevin B Charlene E	Arthur K Rex H Lina E	Lenore D Charlie E Arthur K	Tony H, Janna Charlene E Celina E Alexis H.	Arthur K Jackie K