St Brigid's, Marrickville

In the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, Australia.
Est 1886. Under the Pastoral Care of the Passionists since 1887
One Family, Alive in Christ. We stand at the Crossroads of life for many people.

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After hours emergency: 0401 772 139

PARISH TEAM

Fr Giltus Mathias CP	Sr Elenita Flores CP	Paola Yevenes
Fr Joachim Rego CP	Sr Rosana Estoque CP	Sasha Rances
Fr Joseph Sy Ho Doan CP	Elena (Len) Di Perna	Pongia Fenukitau
Fr Van Cong Nguyen CP	Jim Yeo - Safeguarding Officer	Thomas Gray

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 6 September 2026

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.

PASTORAL MINISTRY CONTACTS

Adult Faith Formation
Mary Leask
Adult Sacraments
Sr Rosana
Altar Society
Fr Doan Sy Ho CP
Bereavement Ministry
Sr Elenita & Michael Schiano
Children's Sacrament& CCD
Sr Elenita
Family Group
Adrienne & Jonathan Harverson
Justice & Peace Network
Peter Jennings
Liturgy Committee
Patricia Thomas
Maintenance
Michael Daher & Pongia Fenukitau
Men's Club
Arthur Kassis, John Skinner & Mick Ward
Ministry of Care
Sr Rosana
Passionist Companions
Margaret Turner
PPC
Fr Giltus Mathias CP
PFC
Paul McCabe
Sacred Union
Fr Giltus CP
Seniors' Group
John Freeman & Peggy Blackall
Vinnies
Terry Petry
Youth Group
Tom & Sasha

Dearest Parishioners and Friends,

This weekend, we celebrate Father's Day, which can bring up many different emotions. For some, it is a joyful day of gratitude, laughter and family gatherings. For others, it can carry an ache: the absence of a father who has died, the pain of a difficult relationship, the sadness of distance between parent and child, or memories that are not easy to celebrate. For some fathers themselves, the day may also awaken questions about whether they have done enough, been present enough, or made the right choices along the way. So perhaps Father's Day is not only a day to celebrate fathers, but also a day to hold gently the many stories that surround fatherhood.

In Matthew 18:15–20 (the gospel for the weekend), Jesus speaks about relationships that are strained, wounded, or broken. He asks us not to walk away too quickly, but to have the courage to speak honestly, to listen carefully and to seek reconciliation. These words speak powerfully to fatherhood today. Modern fathers often carry pressures that are not immediately visible. Many are trying to provide for their families amid rising living costs, demanding work schedules and the constant challenge of finding enough time for those they love. At the same time, fatherhood itself has changed. Fathers are called not simply to provide, but to be emotionally present, patient, attentive and involved. They are expected to be strong, yet vulnerable enough to say, "I was wrong"; firm enough to set boundaries, yet gentle enough to listen; protective, yet wise enough to let their children make choices and learn from them.

And all this takes place in a rapidly changing world. Fathers today are helping children navigate social media, anxiety, peer pressure, uncertainty about the future and values very different from those they themselves grew up with. Sometimes they carry their own fears, disappointments and exhaustion quietly because they feel they must remain strong for everyone else. Perhaps one of the greatest acts of fatherhood, then, is simply to remain present: to stay in the conversation, to keep the door open, to forgive, to begin again and to continue loving even when relationships are complicated.

Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." What a beautiful promise for family life. God is present not only in happy photographs and perfect moments, but also in the difficult conversation at the kitchen table, the apology after an argument, the father waiting for a child to come home, the phone call that tries to rebuild a relationship, and the quiet sacrifices no one else notices. Grace often lives in these ordinary moments of faithfulness.

This Father's Day, we give thanks for fathers, grandfathers and all who offer fatherly love and care. We remember those who have died, those who are separated from their children, and those for whom this day carries pain as well as gratitude. And we pray that every father may know this simple truth: you do not have to be a perfect father; you are called to be a faithful one, present, loving, forgiving and willing, with God's grace, to begin again. Happy Father's Day!

CONFIRMATION

This weekend, we rejoice with the young people of our parish who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is a significant moment in their journey of faith as they are strengthened by the gifts of the Holy Spirit and invited to live their faith with greater courage, maturity and commitment.

Please keep these young people, their families and sponsors in prayer. May the Holy Spirit fill them with wisdom, understanding, courage and joy, and may they always know that they are supported by a parish community that walks with them. I wish to offer my heartfelt thanks to our Parish Sacramental Team and Adult Faith Formation Team for the generosity, care and commitment with which they have prepared our young people for this important moment. Their time, faith and quiet dedication have helped create a space in which these children could grow in understanding and deepen their relationship with God. As our candidates are confirmed in faith, may we too be renewed in our own calling to live as witnesses of Christ in our families, workplaces and community.

RCIA
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
a journey of faith

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Are you or someone you know curious about the Catholic faith? Have you been attending Mass with us and want to take the next step?

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a welcoming, spiritual journey for adults who:

- Have never been baptized and wish to join the Catholic Church.
- Were baptized in another Christian tradition and wish to enter full communion with the Catholic Church.

We gather in a friendly, supportive environment to share our faith, ask questions, and explore the teachings of the Church.

Sessions will begin at 7pm on Wednesday 09-09-26 in the Parish Office. For more information, please contact Sr Rosanna on 8577 5670 or speak to one of the Parish team after Mass.

PROVINCE ASSEMBLY

Starting the 6th of September, Fr Cong and I will be away in Melbourne for the Province Assembly. This gathering brings together members of our Holy Spirit Province from Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Vietnam for prayer, reflection, conversation and discernment as we continue preparing for the Provincial Chapter in 2027.

During my absence, Fr Doan will serve as Acting Parish Priest and will care for the parish together with Fr Joachim and the parish team. I ask you to please keep the Province Assembly, all those travelling to Melbourne, and the wider Passionist family in your prayers. May the Holy Spirit guide our conversations, deepen our communion and help us listen attentively to where God is leading us as a Province.

SEASON OF CREATION 2026

From 1 September to 4 October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, Christians throughout the world celebrate the Season of Creation, a special time of prayer, reflection and action for the care of our common home. It invites us to rediscover creation not simply as something we use, but as a precious gift through which God's goodness and beauty are revealed.

The theme for 2026 is "Living Water," inspired by Ezekiel 47:1–12, where life-giving water flows from the Temple, bringing healing, fruitfulness and new life wherever it goes. During these weeks, may we ask ourselves how our own lives can become channels of that living water, bringing healing rather than harm, gratitude rather than waste, and hope rather than indifference. As individuals, families and as a parish community, may we renew our commitment to listen to the cry of the earth and care faithfully for the beautiful home God has entrusted to us.

Catholic Theological College invites you to an online presentation series featuring nine stand-alone sessions on a range of themes. For more info, please click here.

CHRISTMAS @ ST BRIGID'S

St Brigid's will host a small and welcoming lunch for parishioners who may appreciate the warmth of good company and a shared festive meal on Christmas Day. It will be a simple gathering filled with friendship, conversation and Christmas cheer. ***We are seeking expressions of interest***, with further information made available close to the time. Places will be limited and registration essential. Please contact the Parish Office to register interest in this event.

FAITH-FILLED ACTIVITIES FOR LITTLE KIDS

Creative Kits 4 Kids offers a beautiful range of Catholic children's prayer and activity packs designed to make learning about the faith engaging and enjoyable. Each pack includes a Catholic colouring and activity book, quality coloured pencils and selected faith-based items. To learn more, visit creativekits4kids.com.au or follow @creativekits4kids on Instagram.

HALL RENOVATION

Due to Hall renovations, parking near the hall **will not** be available and pedestrian access will be very limited.
Do phòng hội đang được sửa chữa, chỗ đậu xe gần hội trường **sẽ không** có và lối đi bộ sẽ bị hạn chế rất nhiều.

PARISH FUNDRAISING LUNCH

Our parish Fundraiser Lunch will be held at 12pm on Sunday 1 November. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our parish community to come together, enjoy good company, and support the ongoing needs of the parish. For more information, please see Sr Elenita or Tony Cippolla after Mass, or one of the Parish Team.

We warmly encourage parishioners, families and friends to join us and support this important event.

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FOUNDATION

This Sunday, 06-09-26, we will be taking up a leaving collection after all Masses for the Priests' Retirement Fund.

PLANNED GIVING RECEIPTS

Planned giving receipts for financial year ending in June 2026 are available at the back of the church.

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.

ARCHDIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

If you or someone you know has experienced abuse, or if you are worried about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, please know that you are not alone and that help is available. The Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office is available to listen, support you, and provide guidance about reporting options. You can contact the office on (02) 9390 5800 or at safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also wish to speak with your Parish Priest, who can offer pastoral care and assist you in taking the next step.

The Archdiocese takes all safeguarding concerns seriously and is required to report criminal matters to police. If there is an emergency or someone is in immediate danger, please contact NSW Police on 000.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Justino Alves Martins, Andre Helou, Theresa Frade.

Anniversaries: Giovanna Cipolla, Fr Brian Gleeson CP, Joseph Tabone, Charles Formosa, Audrey Pember, Delia Edwards, Maria Joo Lan Tan, Richard Tuitu'u, Erminia Stramandinoli, Kieren Basic, Kenneth Suter, John Baptist, Cong Van Nguyen, Monica Nguyen Thi Yen, Eileen Blackall, Hend El-Daher, William Warrellao, Badaui 'Peter' Semrany, Kelvin Sullivan, Peggy Barrett, Leslie Victor Hogan, Anna May Matthews,

Those Carrying Severe Illness: Sienna Mai Cao, Patricia Palomino, Agnes Sonju Wong, Alfred Schiavo, Amalene & Gerard George, Antonios Gebrael, Belinda Camacho, Catherine Vella, Charles Chen, Colin Constantinou, Damia Roumie, Damien Luck, Elizabeth Pizzuto, Gavin Buchel, Jennifer Alam, George Baraket, Georgina Kaldis, Hudson & Theo Doak, Huyen Nguyen, Jennifer Alam, Jo Morrison, John Love, Laurice Sassine, Leonardo, Lidia Obeid, Llyan McAusland, Margaret Barrett, Mary Angela Thomas, Michael Chrissimos, Michael Natoloczny, Pauline Zerbo, Paul Murphy, Penelope Lincoln, Peter Buchel, Peter Martin, Richard Hudson, Rosario Poli, Rosie Pazman, Rudi Presern, Sofi, Tim Jude Thomas, Tina Schino, Wendy Joukhador.

Other Intentions: Jennifer Alam, Joseph Bianchini, Joseph Farah, Wendy Lamb, Josephine Farah, Quirino Goncalves,

MASS TEXTS: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9
If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

Response: Psalm 94:1-2, 6-9
O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10
Love is the fulfilment of the Law

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia! God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20
If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

PARISH CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 2026		
Mon 7	International Literacy Day	
Tue 8	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
Wed 9	7pm	RCIA Information Night
Sat 12	The Most Holy Name of Mary	
Mon 14	The Exultation of the Holy Cross	
Tue 15	The Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows	
Wed 16	7pm	RCIA in Parish Centre
Fri 18	International Equal Pay Day	

LITURGICAL TIMETABLE

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.**

MINISTRY OF CARE & SUPPORT TO THE AGED AND INFIRMED:
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.

DAILY MORNING MASSES

Date	Lay Min	Reader
Mon 6.45	Vinh N	Jim Y
9.00	Mary T	Liz
Tue 6.45	Albert N	Viet
9.00	Mary T	Viet
Wed 6.45	Albert N	Paul C
9.00	Liz	Buddy
Thu 6.45	Paul C	Michael P
9.00	Thom Thao	Joanna
Fri 6.45	Vinh N	Patricia
9.00	Tony C	Leila W
Sat 8.00	Jim	Judy

WEEKLY ROSTER

MASS TIMES	Commentators (C) & Lectors (L1 & L2)			Communion Ministers		Acolytes / Altar Servers	Collector In-charge
		5 / 6 Sep	12 / 13 Sep	5 / 6 Sep	12 / 13 Sep	12 / 13 Sep	
Saturday 5pm (Vigil)	C L1 L2	Kelelia F Michael H Ofa T	Paul C Laura N Thu T	Vinh N Paul C Elizabeth B Michael P	Vinh N Ofa T Gabrielle B George K	Vinh N Ben, Augustine	Jim Y. Michael P.
Sunday 8am	C L1 L2	John S Heather K Joanna V	Emma K Libby D Marco G	Mary L Dennis M John S	Joanna V Rebecca B Mary L	Dennis M. Luca G Antonella G Aiden S	Peter H. Maria M.
Sunday 10:30am	C L1 L2	Mely S Peter J Italian	Albert N Susan K Italian	Anthony N Tony H Angie C Albert N	Anthony N Bernadette Y Peter J Joanne M	Albert N Anthony N Josh K	Tony C Julian P
Sunday 6pm	C L1 L2	Arthur K Rania R Landon O	Rania R Landon O Charlene E	Lenore D Charlie E Lina E	Arthur K Alexis H Rex H	Tony H, Janna H Charlene E Celina E Alexis H	Arthur K Jackie K